

# THE C4 NEWSLETTER

*Spring 2010*

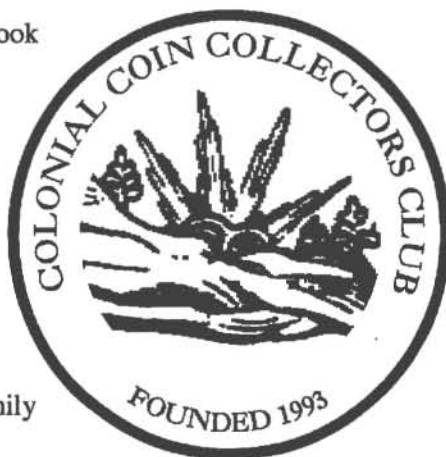
*Volume 18, Number 1*



**A NEWLY DISCOVERED, RARE GEORGE I INDIAN PEACE MEDAL**

## Featured in this issue

- Historical Treatment of NJ Coppers by the Redbook
- Connecticut Misattributions (32.3 versus 43.2)
- Fifty years of Colonial Newsletter
- Are Fugios Cents?
- Rediscovery of Connecticut 5.15-S
- Medal Commemorating Morro Castle
- A New Jersey "Tea Party"
- An Unusual 1711-D 30 Deniers
- George I Indian Peace Medal Discovered
- 1<sup>st</sup> Deaccessioning of Garrett's Coins
- Signatories of NJ Colonial Paper
- Contemporary Counterfeits – Muted George Family



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**The C4 Newsletter**

A quarterly publication of

**The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.**

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Volume 18, Number 1

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Spring 2010

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*Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer*

*Dues are \$25-regular (including 1<sup>st</sup> class mailing of the Newsletter); \$10 for junior members (under 18).*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this, I'm looking forward to seeing C4 members and friends at the annual EAC Convention in Annapolis, MD in several days. Dave Bowers will be the featured speaker and there is a dinner in his honor that I will be attending. C4 will have a club meeting early on Saturday morning, and a "Colonial Happening." C4 has already had two meetings so far in 2010: the first at the Spring ANA Convention in Fort Worth, and the second on April 17<sup>th</sup> in Tukwila, WA at the PNNA Show. After EAC, C4 members will have a gathering at 1:00 p.m. Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> at the GSNA Convention in Somerset, NJ. August 11<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> will be the Summer ANA Convention in Boston with the theme being "The Birthplace of American Money." C4 as a club and many C4 members will be taking an active role in this convention between exhibiting colonial numismatic material and giving educational presentations. Please consider exhibiting or speaking – if you have any questions, please contact me. C4 will also have a meeting at the Whitman Show in Philadelphia Sept 30 – Oct 2 (time to be determined) and of course we'll be ending our year with the C4 Convention in Boston in November!

I have heard from the C4 nominating committee that there are at least three elected officer positions that will have multiple candidates. We will have an actual election this year, where you have a choice, as opposed to voting to approve a slate of members who volunteered to be nominated. It should be exciting. Nominations are still open, so if you know someone that you feel would make a good officer, please make a nomination before the deadline.

CNL (the *Colonial Newsletter*) has reached it's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year! Congratulations to the editors and staff, past and present! I also just heard last week that Gary Trudgen is retiring as the 4<sup>th</sup> CNL editor and Oliver Hoover has agreed to assume the position. Oliver is succeeding editors Gary Trudgen, Phil Mossman, Jim Spilman and Al Hoch. Many thanks to Gary and the previous editors for their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to Oliver and all the best!

Looking over the table of contents for this issue (I don't have the articles) I see a variety of topics and there is something there for everyone. Being that I only have two Presidential messages left to write, let me take a minute to say how much I appreciate the C4N editors from Syd Martin all the way back to Michael Hodder! It is this *Newsletter* that keeps us bound together. You can be in a position where you just can't attend conventions, but open these pages and you can see yourself there! You get to read some of the most up-to-date articles on special topics and casual/folksy articles too. I also thank the authors, where would we be without members willing to share? Look at the authors over the years – you'll see names that are very familiar and some that you've never heard of... those names you don't know – they're collectors like you and me that just wrote a few paragraphs, and maybe supplied a picture or two, about something they enjoy. You can do it too. Please give it a try.

Have FUN!  
Ray Williams

## A STORY OF MISATTRIBUTED CONNECTICUT COPPER (William Gleckler)

The misattribution of coins is a very common dilemma, especially with colonial coins with poor planchets and the myriad problems that are so common in the Connecticut Copper varieties. The recent release of the *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins* is an improvement in attributing Connecticuts. It has a "complete" listing with mostly usable images – a major improvement over the Miller books (green or brown versions). The Whitman's book is authored by Q. David Bowers with the help of many C4 members. The first edition of the book has a relatively small number of errors, which could obviously lead to a relatively small number of misattributions. A phone call to Whitman with a request for the known errors was quickly answered with a list which they, just as quickly sent to my email address. I told them of the planned article, so I will pass on the presently known errors with their kind permission at the conclusion of the article. The important catalogs are a necessary tool, as well. The following list is a good starting point. There are several booksellers that have a constantly changing inventory of these and many more catalogs:

1. Perkins, from Stack's Americana, January 2000
2. Taylor, from Bowers and Merena, March 1987
3. Oechsner, from Stack's, September 1988
4. The Ford-IX Sale of Connecticut Coppers, from Stack's, May 2005
5. The EAC Pinetree Sale of 1975

There are lots of sites on the internet of differing degrees of helpfulness. The EAC website has a great links page. One of the most useful resources is the C4 lending library. Librarian Leo Shane does an absolutely fantastic job getting requested literature into the researchers hands. He makes the process nearly effortless.

There are quite a few Connecticut coins that seem to get miscataloged with some surprising regularity. A few of the more commonly misattributed die marriages would include 1785 6.3-G.1/G.2 (rarity 3/6), 1785 6.4-I/K (rarity 2/6), 1785 7.1/7.3-D (rarity 4/8), 1786 5.5/5.6-M (rarity 3/6), 1786 5.14/5.15-S (rarity 5/8), and 1787 32.3/43.2-X.4 (rarity 2/5). Of this group, the misattributed 1785 7.1/7.3-D Taylor coin is well documented. The census has probably been corrected to account for this well known miscataloging. The 1787 32.3/43.2-X.4 is a variety that has a surprising number of high profile coins that appear to have been miscataloged, and are the coins that are the focus of this article.



1787 M43.2-X.4

An examination of the Oechsner sale, lots 1174 and 1175, showed that both lots may indeed be the more common 32.3 obverse, and not the 43.2 as cataloged. A note of interest is that the coin that is cataloged as Miller 32.3-X.4, lot 1103, is probably the rarer 43.2. It is possible the cataloger confused the photos; however, an examination of the lot description does not really support this. The Taylor coins listed as 43.2-X.4, lots 2665 and 2666, are more difficult to tell from the catalogue. Lot 2665 seems to exhibit the telltale signs of the 32.3 lower horizontal in the corrected E. Randy Clark was kind enough to take a look and pass on his conclusions: "Taylor:2665 has the left field clash I believe falls into the 43.2 category. Taylor:2666 has isostasy above the character, so looks like a 43.2 as well." The Perkins coin, lot 479 is indeed a 43.2 obverse. The 43.2 obverse was conspicuously absent from the Ford collection. I'd like to thank Randy Clark for supplying some better images of the Oechsner lots that I could scan.

The problem of attributing the 43.2 obverse came to light for me, as I examined the coins in the collection for which I am the caretaker. The more I examined the coins, the more I realized I could not tell any difference in the 43.2 and 32.3 varieties. I finally came to the undeniable conclusion, that they were all ( 4 coins in total) the more common 32.3 obverse. Three coins were misattributed! Undaunted, I found a 43.2 in the C4 auction catalog. I won the lot and was very surprised to get the coin home, only to find that it too was a misattributed 32.3. So, shame on me for not examining the lot more closely before the auction. At that time, I was still fairly confused on how to attribute the variety. That was the straw that broke the camel's back. I decided this was an obvious



problem, with no easy solution. The time had come to do something that might help in preventing the losses accrued when paying R5 money for an R2 coin! That is the simple side of the argument. The more delicate problems also need to be considered. If, as it appears to be in this case, the coins have not been re-attributed and the census corrected, then a lot of collections may be affected. It does not take that many corrections to make a variety that is listed as R5, now really R6 (or R7). The current census of 43.2 is somewhere around 45 specimens or so – falling to 30 specimens would change its rarity to an R6 level.

How does this happen? I could quite easily tell that the coins in my collection were all similar in ways that made it an easy call. I was very surprised at the number of high profile auctions that appeared to be so obviously miscatalogued. After examining the return policies of a couple of the larger auction houses, it can be concluded that this really doesn't serve the purpose of limiting the frequency of misattributions. There is no real need to closely check the coins and catalogs for errors. Stack's states that any coin that is examined by the buyer is sold "as is," with no returns allowed except for questions of authenticity. But mail bidders are afforded a number of days to return lots to be considered. Goldberg's policy is nearly identical to the terms of sale for Stack's. Heritage's terms of sale states that if the misattribution is discovered after the auction, they agree "to refund the buyers purchase price without further obligation." The C4 auction immediately offered to return my purchase price with the return of the coin. Of course, that is the proper policy for a club auction. The most comprehensive return policy is afforded club members, and this is a member only auction.

In my quest for answers, I contacted Vicken Yegparian. He is a C4 member, and is also a member of the numismatic staff at Stack's Auctions. My inquiry was to find out how consignments are attributed. I also told him of my plan for this article. Stack's uses a wide variety of source material including, but not limited to Miller; major sale catalogues of Connecticut, like EAC 1975, Taylor, Perkins, and Ford; as well as the *CNL* and *C4 Newsletter*. Vicken added "Of course if there are misattributions in any of these sales, this might compound future misattributions for not only auction houses but dealers and collectors alike!" The reality, though, is that attribution is ultimately the responsibility of the buyer.

Adding to the attribution difficulty for these varieties is the confusing descriptions in the commonly used reference materials. Take, for example, the Whitman's description. It is actually stated that there are differing views of how to attribute the coin. The views as they state them make the attribution sound about as arbitrary as an attempt to finally settle the question of how deep must the egg be buried to grow a chicken. This coin is listed as a CONNFC misspelling. I was of the uneducated opinion that it was that clear cut, considering that there is a die state that is simply the CONNEC misspelled with the "F" punch. Right? Not so simple. As a matter of actual fact, the accepted attribution is listed in the added material published in the back of the Miller book as "Additions and Corrections to the State Coinage of Connecticut." Most of the changes are the work of Frederick Canfield and Hillyer Ryder. Published in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, vol. LIII, 1920, it reads "This is a 'CONNFC' and was struck from the die

before the F was changed to E and became obverse 32.3. The burr that was raised by the F and C punches is plainly visible on the coin; it was removed before the altered die was used."

I had asked assistance of several respected members of the Connecticut community. Robert Martin was kind enough to bring that specific information to my attention. Additionally, Robert clarified the description with "A burr/isostasy around the letter F is required to qualify for 43.2, as is the clear lack of a lower serif. There is some evidence late state 43.2 is clashed with an incuse branch in the right field under UCT."

Another interesting description I found from an old C4 auction catalogue I browsed referred to a small raised triangle in the field between the F and C with signs of die clashing above NFC, and a tiny raised lump at the foot of C between CT. An interesting personal observation is that the triangle shape is similar between the LI on the reverse. This may be because of the L punch being used to correct the E at some point. Let me stress that this is a personal observation, without any factual research.

Randy Clark was also generous in his reply. He also referred to the Canfield corrections. Randy has assembled a very comprehensive section in his upcoming publication of the Connecticut Coppers. He has the technical side of the attribution more than covered with inclusion of ample side-by-side documentation [See Randy's following article in this *Newsletter* – Editor].

I was blown away by the generous nature of these responses to my inquiry. Additionally, they both agree that the question of which state of the obverse came first is very important and needs further study – a very scholarly vision. Unfortunately, the problem of the cost of overpaying for a misattributed coin is not inconsequential.

I would also like to thank Ray Williams for his help in reaching out to the C4 membership for images of this difficult variety. Included here is the image of my recently purchased, and correctly attributed 43.2 Connecticut (thanks to Jeff Rock at Rosa Americana, as always an invaluable resource). Syd Martin stepped up with an awesome correctly attributed image. Randy will be publishing the images for his book in a companion taxonomy paper now that permissions and agreements have been granted. He shared his findings for my article. He also contributed an image that I am including with permission from Stack's Auctions. This coin was lot 244 in the 14th C4 auction in 2008. These two back-to-back articles will make this coin much easier to attribute. Easier, but still, much more difficult than almost any other Connecticut variety. Especially, in certain of the die states.

As I was about to submit this article, a very extensive group of colonial coins came to auction, presented by Stack's Rare Coins in the first week of March. One lot was represented as "1787 M43.2-X.4." Randy put forth the challenge, and asked about the accuracy of the attribution. My opinion was that the coin is actually a 32.3 obverse, due to lower serif showing a thin extension known only with 32.3, in the absence of any re-punch or incuse details around the NFC. The clincher for me is the lack of the buildup



of metal forming an oblong shape, also referred to as an isostasy that is very pronounced just to the right of the middle and lower serifs, and essential in this die state to qualify it as a 43.2 obverse. My opinion, which is decidedly the least experienced of the responders, is in agreement with Randy's opinion. He stated "Given the poor coin surfaces and image resolution, it is difficult to make a definitive call on the Stack's March 2010 coin. The lower serif of E/F extends past the middle serif, which is true of all 32.3. The only time this is true of 43.2 is when incuse details form a perfect "E" ('state 3' in Randy's taxonomy paper). Staring at these low resolution images is like reading an ink blot with respect to seeing incuse details around the lettering." Jeff Rock points out an all too common reality, with his response: "From the pic, I'd say 32.3 – but that may change when viewed in person. One of the biggest problems with this obverse is that a little tiny shift in lighting can cause a shadow or wash out the weakened lower arm of the E, so an in-person look is definitely required." (Drum Roll) The result of the in-hand inspection of the coin in the Stack's auction sale that appeared as lot 2460, determined it to be the more common 32.3 obverse. As a matter of interest, the coin may actually be the aforementioned Oechsner lot 1175. I would like to thank Jeff Rock for verifying the attribution. I believe this serves as an exclamation point as to how these types of errors can be so easily proliferated. As this coin exemplifies, the problems with attributing any Connecticut variety may go beyond the mere clarification of the coins taxonomy. Once the technical qualifications are met, you still may struggle with the issue of wear, damage, and planchet problems that can still effect ones ability to attribute a coin properly. Many intriguing misattributed Connecticut die marriages are in need of further study. Most are at least as compelling as the 43.2/32.3 pair.

Ultimately, there may always be a certain number of "misattributions" based on the fact that it will still take a very astute collector or dealer to determine if some of these coins meet the technical requirements for certain attribution. I believe that the current census may be affected adversely by this more detailed and comprehensive information. A word to the wise might be to recheck your coins for correct attribution. A more educated collector is always a worthy goal for any article that makes it into the C4 newsletter. Hopefully, that has been accomplished here.

Appended are photos of some of the key Connecticut references referenced in the above discussion – all shown are with the permission of the person or company that owns the image.



1787 March 2010 Eliasberg, Krause Collection Auction

Courtesy of Stack's Rare Coins

Lot 2460 misattributed as 43.2 obverse



1787 32.3 Obverse from the  
D E E Anderson Collection



1787 32.3 obverse misattributed lot from  
2009 C4 auction



1787 43.2 obverse Courtesy of Stack's Rare Coins



1787 43.2 obverse Courtesy of Syd Martin



*Lot No. 1103*



*Lot No. 1174*



*Lot No. 1175*

The Herbert Oechsner lots courtesy of Stack's Rare Coins



1787 43.2 Obverse courtesy Donald E. Anderson Collection

Image courtesy Jeff Rock at Rosa Americana



## WHITMAN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF COLONIAL AND EARLY AMERICAN COINS

Whitman Publishing takes its commitment to accurate information very seriously; our goal is 100% perfection. In publishing, as in every human endeavor, there is always the chance of errors, especially when thousands of pieces of content are involved. This list of corrections (by page number) notes the major errata in this edition. For corrections of typographical errors and other minor errata, please visit [www.WhitmanBooks.com](http://www.WhitmanBooks.com), or write Whitman Publishing, Attn: Colonial Encyclopedia, 3101 Clairmont Road, Suite C, Atlanta GA 30329.

- Global: In the text, where grades for copper coins are listed, "BB" frequently appears where "RB" (Red Brown) is intended, and "BD" where "RD" (Red) is intended.
11. The top right coin is *not* an authentic George II halfpenny as described, but rather a contemporary counterfeit.
12. *Top left*: In caption (b), change "Noc-3" to "Noc-5"; in (c), change "Noc-14" to "Noc-1." *Middle left*: transpose captions, such that (a) is "Muttonhead" and (b) is "Small Head." *Bottom left*: change (b) to "1787 Maris 6-C;" change (c) to "1787 Maris 55-L."
48. W-875: Image is duplicate of W-870.
- 60, 62. Photo above W-1332 is actually W-1226.
63. W-1334: Image is placed below picture instead of above; in heading, change "3-D" to "3-E." W-1338: In heading, change "3-E" to "3-G;" text line 3, delete stop before "Rosa;" line 4, delete parenthetical phrase.
87. W-2115: Image is RR-31.
120. Miller 33.22: Image is Miller 33.2.
135. Miller g.2: Image is Miller g.3
136. Miller L.2: Image is Miller GG.
137. Miller r.5: Image is Miller r.1; the diagnostic should be the die crack connecting the second and third cinquofoils as well.
138. Miller hh.2: Image is Miller z.4.
139. Miller GG: Image is Miller L.2.
163. Maris 25: Image is Maris 26.
164. Maris 19: Image is Maris 26.
165. Maris 29: Image is Maris 30. Maris 35: Text line 2, change "8 over 7" to "7 over 8."
168. Maris 59: Line 8, change "59-m" to "59-mm;" line 9, change "W-5335" to "W-5325." Maris 84: Image is Maris 83.
169. Maris 56: Image is Maris 55.
170. Maris 74: Lines 2 and 3, change "No coulter or singletree" to "Coulter and singletree visible only on high-grade, well-struck examples."
171. Maris G: Image is Maris g. Maris H: Image is Maris h.
172. Maris S: Line 3, change "W-4995" to "W-4985."
173. Maris h: Image is Maris H.
174. Maris r: Image is Maris q; line 4, change "W-5395" to "W-5490."
175. Maris bb: Close-up is actually Maris dd.
180. W-5505: First text line, change "Final A" to "First A." W-5100: Delete "With 'square' T in UNUM."
199. Easy Finding Guide, Ryder A: Image is Ryder B; line 2.
- 199-205. W-numbers beginning with 7 should begin with 6.
200. Ryder 2: Image is Ryder 4.
201. Ryder C: Image is Ryder D.
202. Ryder 9: Image is Ryder 16.
209. Easy Finding Guide, top of second column: Delete "CROSS AFTER DATE" from subhead.
228. W-8125: Image is of a 1777 counterfeit British halfpenny.
- 232, 233. The same reverse image is used for W-8205 and W-8255.
254. W-9250 and W-9255 may be the same coin: many more than two are known.
279. W-11465: Image is of a Small Sail variety.
287. W-12350: In heading, change "Martin 3-Bc" to "Martin 2-Bc and 3-Bc." Add to description: "In obverse 2, the 'I•C' spacing is much greater."
287. W-12600 to 12620: In group heading, change "3.7-E.1 to 3.22-E.2" to "3-D and 3-E." W-12670 to 12790: In group heading, change "3-B to 5-B" to "3-B, 4-B, and 5-B"; add to description: "Obverse 3 has a slightly larger head than Obverse 4; in Obverse 5 the stop is adjacent to DEI rather than midway between DEI and GRATIA."
288. W-12810: In heading, change "4-C and 5-C" to "3-C, 4-C, and 5-C."
289. W-12880: In heading, change "4-Ga1" to "4-Ga." W-12900: In heading, delete "and 4-Hb." W-13470: In heading, change "3-F and 5-F" to "3-F, 4-F and 5-F."



## **1787 CONNECTICUT OBVERSES 32.3 AND 43.2**

### **EVOLUTION AND CHARACTERISTICS**

(Randy Clark)

Laying out a taxonomy for Connecticut coppers wasn't easy, given the diversity of the series and the infinite number of ways to describe it. The first published attempt created by Montroville Dickeson in his 1860 *The American Numismatic Manual* was admirable in scope and a total failure. A very different approach to taxonomy, published by Sylvester Crosby in the 1875 *The Early Coins of America*, was well received and found its way into auction catalogs of the period. It laid out usable tables of coin characteristics but did not have sufficient detail to do fine attributions.

The most lasting structure, used to this day, was created by Dr. Thomas Hall circa 1890 and went mostly unpublished. Dr. Hall's private notes expanded on Mr. Crosby's coarse tables, adding descriptive details and sub-varieties to encompass all known reverse and obverse permutations.

Some thirty years later, Henry C. Miller's modest revisions to Dr. Hall's private notes were published in "The State Coinage of Connecticut" for the 1920 *American Journal of Numismatics*. While referred to as Miller listings, collectors are reminded the principal architect was Dr. Thomas Hall – perhaps a lesson in "publish or perish."

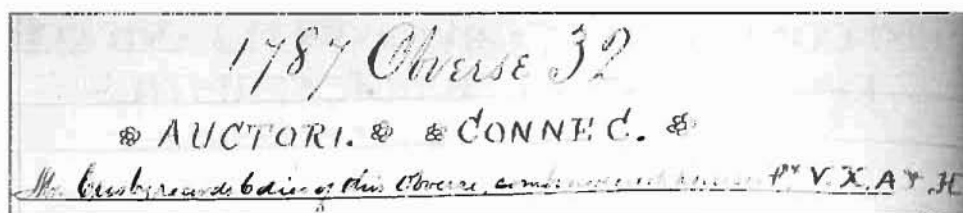
After a successful taxonomy is laid out, the next trick is to manage its inevitable maintenance, pruning redundancy and expanding to add discoveries. In the Connecticut series, this ironically started almost immediately after Henry Miller completed his publication. Both Hall and Miller had interacted with contemporaries Frederick Canfield and Hillyer Ryder as avid collectors of the series. After Miller's death in 1920, Canfield and Ryder submitted recommended edits to the Connecticut taxonomy as "Additions and Corrections to The State Coinage of Connecticut," included in the 1920 *American Journal of Numismatics* along with the main body of Miller's work.

This is where our story begins.

### **Connecticut 1787 Obverse 32.3**

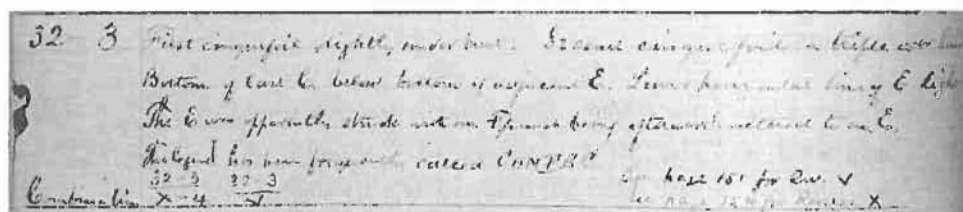
There's nothing particularly noteworthy about the majority of 1787 draped bust obverses. Hubs were used to create central features and punches were used for legends and punctuation. To the studied eye, there are differences found in which punches were selected and the placement of each character on the die. And, of course, there are breaks and bulges and gaffs that make a few varieties more interesting and stand out.

The 1787 type 32 draped bust obverse, for which six variants are known, uses four cinquefoils and two periods interspersed with AUCTORI and CONNEC, setting it apart from other types using colons, fleurons, crosses or different numbers of cinquefoils.



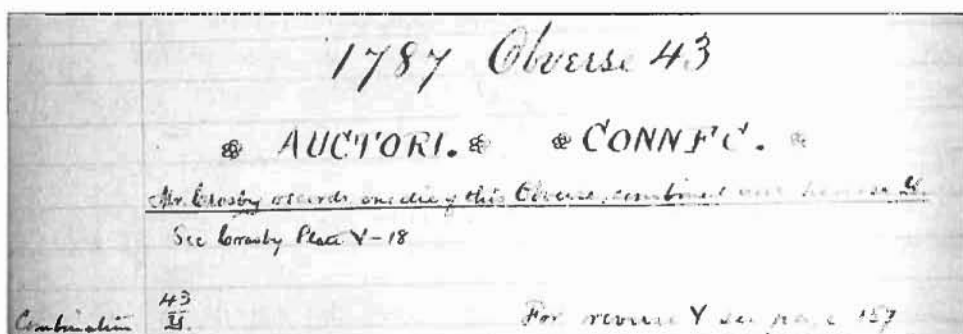
Dr. Thomas Hall, Unpublished Notes, Circa 1890

Among these six obverse 32 varieties is one which was noted by Dr. Hall as having a lettering peculiarity associated with the E in CONNEC. He contended the third defined variety, designated 32-3 (aka 32<sup>3</sup> or 32.3), was unusual by observing “the E was apparently struck with an F punch being afterward altered to an E.” In retrospect, this is actually fairly common in the draped bust series, where many varieties use an F punch and hand strengthening to form the letter E – perhaps due to prevalence of F punches from Fugio copper production at the same mint.



Dr. Thomas Hall, Unpublished Notes, Circa 1890

Dr. Hall goes on state the 32-3 “legend has been frequently called CONFEC,” believed to be a phonetic spelling to represent CONNEC – a spelling blunder seen on 1787 obverse type 43. Type 43 is a similar variety with different punch placement and a CONNEC without a reworked E.



Dr. Thomas Hall, Unpublished Notes, Circa 1890

Some thirty years later, little had changed on designation of type 32.3, as seen by Henry Miller’s description for the 1920 AJN article. Mr. Miller similarly notes “the E, which is made with an F punch altered, sometimes looks like F.”

Var. 3. First cinquefoil about one-fourth under bust. Second cinquefoil distant from period and most of it above hair. Third cinquefoil at moderate distance from head. Last cinquefoil below lower fillet-end. First period low, below base of t. Last period opposite lower fillet-end. Lower line of E imperfect and long. The E, which is made with an F punch altered, sometimes looks like F. Final c low. 32<sup>3</sup>—X<sup>4</sup> (C)

Henry C. Miller, The State Coinage of Connecticut, AJN, 1920

Frederick Canfield and Hillyer Ryder, however, appeared uncomfortable having a variety 32 with an E that sometimes looks like an F, given there already was another variety 43 set aside for such misspellings. Hence a decision was made after Mr. Miller's death to split the obverse 32.3 variety based on whether the E was an E ... or an F. It was decided in the 1920 "Additions and Corrections" to create a new obverse 43 variety for examples of 32.3 with a clear F in CONNEC. Prior obverse 43 was changed to 43.1 and the separated misspellings of 32.3 became type 43.2.

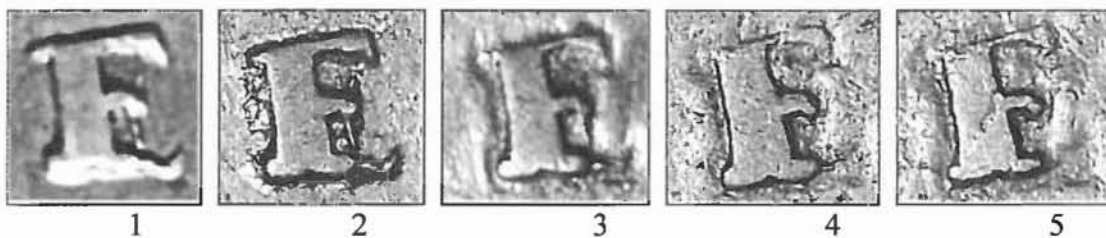
PAGE  
36. Obverse 43. Add Var. 1 to description, and add Var. 2, as follows:  
This is a "CONNFC" and was struck from the die before the F was changed to E and became 32<sup>3</sup>. The burr that was raised by the F and C punches is plainly visible on the coin; it was removed before the altered die was used.  
43<sup>2</sup>—X<sup>4</sup> (R<sup>5</sup>)

Additions and Corrections to The State Coinage of Connecticut, AJN, 1920

But an unexpected twist was thrown in with the Additions and Corrections designation. Canfield and Ryder made the assertion type 43.2 CONNFC spellings were "struck before the F was changed to E" and a "burr that was raised by the F and C punches is plainly visible" to be later removed prior to use as type 32.3. Let's set aside the discussion, for now, of what causes the "burr."

### What is an E and What is an F ?

Let's focus on the letter that makes a 43.2 identifiably unique from a 32.3. It is clear from the coarse "Additions and Corrections" designation that CONNEC makes a 32.3 and CONNFC makes a 43.2. But there is a spectrum of E formation between letter extremes that has confused 90 years of collectors and catalogers.



Spectrum of Letter Characteristics Seen on Obverses 32.3 and 43.2

The leftmost image, #1, is a clear E, with full lower serif and flat peripheral fields. Note the vertical punch remnant between serifs which I call a “bridge”. It is not clearly understood why the bridge exists, but it could be an integral part of the punch to inhibit breakage or a leftover from modifying the punch from a different letter.

The rightmost image, #5, is a clear F, with no lower serif and the peripheral “burr” discussed in Canfield and Ryder’s description. This “burr” is more apparent on the middle image, #3, as strong raised features around the outside of the letter. On clear specimens, the raised features are clearly in the shape of an E, even though the letter itself may be without a lower serif, as seen in the rightmost images.

### **What is a Burr ?**

There are two questions, really. What is that disturbance around the letter and how was it caused? Canfield and Ryder asserted the letter was punched in the die as an F, struck as obverse 43.2 and later hand modified into an E prior to striking as obverse 32.3. This would imply a “Right to Left” evolution on the letter images shown above. They continued to state the “burr” was raised by the F punch and later removed, presumably by lapping. Left unstated was their justification an F punch would leave a burr with an E shape.

A discussion of this “burr” among colonial specialists years ago lead to the term “isostasy” being employed to describe the flow of metal outward and upward on a die as the result of a particularly strong letter punch strike. The theory is worthy of consideration, knowing there are some very large E punches used in the Connecticut series, such as seen on 1787 obverses 11.1, 16.2 and 47. But these are not the style used on die types associated with obverses 32 and 43. The style of E seen with the 32.3 and 43.2 bust types is much smaller.

In addition, how does one account for the incremental addition of a lower serif, as seen moving from “Right to Left” above. Would a die cutter continue to hand strengthen a die during use?

Walter Breen, in his cataloging of the 1975 Pine Tree EAC sale, ventured an alternative theory on the “burr.” He described lot #276, type 43.2, calling attention to “the die defects around FC, the clash marks from border above these letters and the missing serifs of many letters; parts of armor and lower drapery are gone, testifying to regrinding of the die, which details were normal on 32.3.”

Breen’s regrinding premise would imply a “Left to Right” evolution on the letter images shown above. The die would be struck with an F punch, reworked into an E and struck as type 32.3. At mid use, the die would be reworked by lapping, seeing reduction in letter, armor and drapery detail. This makes more sense in lower serif evolution, which would be seen as degrading with die use and reworking.



GROUP F PERIODS, NO COLONS.  
SUBGROUP 1. CONNEC.

276 1787. M.43.2-X.4. Low R-7. Ribbon ends nearer to shield; no dashes. Actually, reground and much deteriorated die state of obv. 32.3, below. Some details Very Fine, the rest Fine and weakly struck due largely to wear on die; small pinches; defect at space between OR, light laminations. Discovered by Canfield in 1920, represented to date by one in ANS, one last seen in the Yale University collection; three in the Barnsley collection and five others (including the present specimen) in private collection. Note the die defects around FC, the clasp marks from burr above these letters, and the missing surrils of many letters; parts of armor and lower drapery are gone, testifying to regrinding of the die, which details were normal on 32.3. (Photo)



SUBGROUP 2. CONNEC.

277 1787. M.32.3-X.4. R-1. Period wholly below 1; EC over FC; upper ribbon end points to period, similar to 32.4 (below). Rev. Upper surr and points between TL over between LI, last period half buried in shield. Both Es corrected from Fs, B over R. Many details better than VF, some others weaker as struck; light brown, faintly lustreless surfaces suggesting Ex. Fine. Common in lower grades, but evidently very rare in this condition, as we have seen no better one (one AU is reported). From the Howers list, earlier from the Stegney Hoard. (Photo) (\$75-100)



278 1787. M.32.2-X.4. R-7. First period exceptionally close to cinquantol; Rev. Reground die of last, most of late-lines gone as is more than half of first cinquantol. Some details Ex. Fine, others weaker as struck; reddish brown with some darker areas, natural gloss suggesting a grade very close to Ex. Fine; possibly just better than le en, minimal defects only. Finest we have seen; the Sherman Bryant coin was only Fair. (Photo) (\$400-up)

Pine Tree Auction Company, EAC Sale, February 1975 (Walter Breen Cataloger)

## But what would be the cause of the "burr" ?

I happen to agree with Walter Breen's interpretation – obverse 32.3 came first. It is not 100% clear why obverse 32.3 was reworked, but I contend it rusted – based on die features seen on reverse X.4 when it was lapped, as well. Which is a point that needs to be made ... if we look at the evolution of reverse X.4, which was paired with both 32.3 and 43.2, you see lapping and rework traces paired with 43.2 not seen when paired with 32.3. Even more extensive lapping and rework of X.4 is seen in its final usage with obverse 32.2.

Regarding the "burr," I assert it is a feature on the recently lapped obverse, on its way to being a 43.2. After lapping, NEC had been significantly reduced in profile - enough to warrant hand strengthening. Rather than repunch the letters, which could result in misalignment, the die cutter chose to remove metal in the flat fields between letters. This would outline the low profile NEC, giving it additional depth.

## A Picture is Worth 1000 Words

To illustrate reworking which results in a "burr," its useful to think in terms of die instead of coins. Coppers struck as brockage provide a useful tool to visualize coining die, because features are mirrored and incuse (inset) on brockage strikes, as they would be on a striking die. The image shown below is of an unrelated 1787 Obverse 19, but is being used to visualize the flat fields between letters which would result after lapping of obverse 32.3. Assuming the resulting depth of NEC was shallow, removing metal in the flats was used to outline letters - giving the perception of depth. The die cutter had to be careful not to touch the lettering, which would have made matters worse.





1787 Obverse 19 Brockage



Obverse 19 Brockage and Obverse 43.2 Mirrored

The topmost grayscale image is of the obverse 19 brockage. The middle image is of a transition state obverse 43.2 (when the “burr” is most well defined) but mirrored to compare with the brockage. The bottom image outlines the areas of metal removal which would result in the “burr” effect.

So where does that leave us? The next two pages provide descriptive and photographic details to differentiate between obverses 32.3 and 43.2. The event of lapping is used to define onset of obverse 43.2. Appearance of a burr and the subsequent degradation of the E lower serif, are diagnostic requirements.

### Conclusion and Acknowledgements

This article has defined the attribution characteristics for 1787 Connecticut obverse 32.3 and 43.2, to supplement the inconclusive definitions in earlier literature. The availability of high quality coins and images have enabled these advances.

Die progression originated with obverse 32.3, with pristine characteristics on high quality coins. The letter E on 32.3 is made with an F punch and the die hand strengthened to make a lower serif prior to use. It is contended the dies rusted during an idle period, requiring lapping to improve. This lapping reduced feature profiles on lettering and bust details. The profile of NEC was hand strengthened by removing metal in the fields around the letters. This resulted in the “burr” which is a defining characteristic of obverse 43.2.

The other defining characteristic is weakening of the E lower serif, which rapidly degrades through use to result in an F. Obverse 43.2 is later severely clashed in the left field by a reverse branch and hand.

Was the decision to split obverse 43.2 from obverse 32.3 justified? Perhaps not, but the two obverses have coexisted now for almost a century. As guardians of Connecticut taxonomy we all need to be cautious when new varieties are added – or removed. This is not the only example of separate colonial copper varieties which might be alternatively considered die states instead.

The purpose of this article is to clearly define the characteristics of the two. Since they have been historically assigned different rarity ratings, it is important for collectors to be able to identify what they have.

Will this definition result in revised rarity ratings? Possible, but unlikely. Only transition type dies would be effected, where a “burr” might be present with a weak lower serif of E. Such obverses might have previously been classified as 32.3, instead of the proper 43.2.

I would like to thank Robert Martin, Syd Martin and Neil Rothschild for their help with the article content and allowing use of their images. My thanks also goes out to C4's Bill Gleckler, whose recent interest in identifying obverses 32.3 and 43.2 led to the writing of this article.

## Attribution of 1787 Obverses 32.3 and 43.2

Obverse 32.3 shows clean fields but a progressively deteriorating E lower serif. The obverse is then lapped & strengthened, resulting in obverse 43.2. Presence of a metal disturbance around NEC (the "burr" a result of die metal removal between letters) or a clear letter F (no lower serif on E) are required to qualify as obverse 43.2. In this lapped state, serifs of T, N, and E appear weak and bust mail plates are reduced in number from 9 to 7. Later states of 43.2 become clashed with an incuse branch in the field under UCT and small bulges develop between AU and CT.



- Die State 1
- Attribution: Obverse 32.3
- No burr around letter E.
- Clear lower serif of E visible.
- Bridge from middle serif of E visible.
- Upper right serif of N visible.



- Die State 2
- Attribution: Obverse 32.3
- No burr around letter E.
- Clear thin lower serif of E visible.
- Bridge from middle serif of E visible.
- Upper right serif of N visible.



- Die State 3 (transition state)
- Attribution: Obverse 43.2
- Burr around letter E clear.
- Partial lower serif of E visible.
- Partial bridge on middle serif of E visible.
- Upper right serif of N partly visible.



- Die State 4
- Attribution: Obverse 43.2
- Burr around letter F clear.
- Tiny remnant of lower serif of E visible.
- No bridge from middle serif of E visible.
- Upper right serif of N not visible.



- Die State 5
- Attribution: Obverse 43.2
- Burr around letter F clear.
- No lower serif of E visible.
- No bridge from middle serif of E visible.
- Upper right serif of N not visible.



**Obverse 32.3**

- Clean fields
- Crisp T, N, E and cinquefoils
- A can be open or filled
- Nine lower plates to mail



**Obverse 43.2**

- Fields see clashing as die progresses
- Bulging develops between AU and CT
- Degraded serifs on T, N, E due to lapping
- Weakened 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> cinquefoils due to lapping
- A can be open or filled
- Reduced drapery and bust detail due to lapping
- Seven lower plates to mail (two lost due to lapping)



## **FUGIOS: ARE THEY CENTS?**

(Franklin L. Noel)

Fugios are cents. They always have been. They always will be. That's my story and I'm stickin' to it! In his recent book, *United States Fugio Copper Coinage of 1787*, Eric Newman suggests we adopt a new nomenclature for the Fugio coins. I respectfully disagree.

In a section of his book called, "NAME CHANGE CONCLUSIONS," Newman writes:

It seems appropriate that the previously used labels of 'Fugio Cents', 'Franklin Cent' or similar be abandoned as inaccurate in describing the genuine 1787 copper United States Coinage and that these pieces be referred to as Fugio Copper Coinage with the choice of adding the 1787 date and/or United States to those names.

Elsewhere, regarding a recommendation made in May 1788 to change the legal definition of a cent because of changed economic circumstances, Newman writes,

At no time during this hearing did any committee member or the committee of the whole ever insinuate that the Fugio coppers were meant to be cents. Instead, they were denomination-less *coppers*, a coin whose value floated in the marketplace versus the dollar and, now in 1788, was worth less than it was just a year earlier.

Because the Continental Congress clearly intended the Fugio coins to be cents, we should continue to call them cents. Congress required the contractor to strike the coins to "the federal standard." Under the federal standard, 100 cents should contain 2.25 pounds of copper (157.5 grains per cent). The nominal value of the Fugio coins, as authorized by Congress, was one cent.

### **"The Federal Standard"**

The Continental Congress, pursuant to its authority under Article IX of the Articles of Confederation, adopted the "dollar" as the money unit of the United States, and established the denominations that could be struck, either "by their own authority, or by that of the respective States." The two copper denominations Congress authorized were the cent and the half cent. At no time did the Continental Congress authorize the striking of any other copper coin. At no time did the Congress authorize the striking of a "denomination-less copper."

The Continental Congress adopted the dollar as the money unit of the United States in the summer of 1785. The following year, on August 8, 1786, Congress



established the denominations of the coins that could be struck either by its own authority, or by the authority of the separate states. In its August 8, Resolution, Congress provided:

That the two copper coins shall be as follows: One equal to the one hundredth part of the federal dollar, to be called a cent: And one equal to the two-hundredth part of the federal dollar to be called a half cent. That two pounds and a quarter avoirdupois weight of copper, shall constitute one hundred cents. [*Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 31:504]

To meet this standard, each cent should weigh 157.5 grains.<sup>1</sup>

Both the individual States and the Continental Congress had the power to strike coins. After adopting a money unit and defining the coins that could be struck, the only coins the Continental Congress actually authorized to be struck by its own authority were the Fugio cents. These Congress expressly required be struck “to the federal standard.”

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts also struck coins to the federal standard. The Massachusetts legislation, in addition to the express requirement that each coin conform to the federal standard, also required that the coiner stamp in the center of each coin its name, either “cent” or “half cent.”<sup>2</sup> No one doubts that the Massachusetts coppers are cents and half cents. The Fugios, which Congress required to conform to the same federal standard, were no less cents.

### **“Three hundred tons of copper Coin of the federal standard”**

After receiving and considering several different proposals, Congress adopted (with one minor modification) the one James Jarvis submitted. On April 21, 1787, Congress adopted the Resolution authorizing the Board of Treasury to contract with Jarvis:

That the board of treasury be and they are hereby authorised to contract for three hundred tons of copper Coin of the federal standard agreeably to the proposition of Mr James Jarvis; provided that the premium, to be allowed to the United States on the amount of copper Coin contracted for, be not less than fifteen per cent; that it be coined at the expence of the contractor, but under the inspection of an Officer appointed and paid by the United States.” [*JCC, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 32:225]

Two and half months later, on July 6, 1787, Congress adopted a resolution describing the now familiar devices that define the Fugio coin:

Resolved That the board of treasury direct the contractor for the copper coinage to stamp on one side of each piece the following device, viz Thirteen circles linked together, a small circle in the middle with the words "American Congress" [United States] round it, and in the centre the words "We are one;" On the other side of the same piece the following device, viz A Dial with the hours expressed on the face of it, a Meridian sun above on one side of which is to be the word "Fugio" and on the other the year in figures "1787" below the dial the words "Mind your business". [*JCC*, 1774-1789, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 32:304]

What makes these coins cents is the requirement that they be struck to the "federal standard." The failure of Congress to require that the coin's name be included in the devices (as Massachusetts had done) does not make the Fugio coin a "denomination-less copper." The only copper coins the Continental Congress ever authorized (in its August 8, 1786 Resolution) were cents and half cents.<sup>3</sup> Jarvis' Fugio coins were to be struck to this "federal standard." As the federal standard required that 100 cents consist of 2 1/4 pounds of copper, by legal definition, the coins Congress ordered Jarvis to strike were "cents."

Jarvis never completely fulfilled his contract with Congress. By May 21, 1788 Jarvis had made a small delivery of coins. [*JCC*, 1774-1789, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 34:166-67] He never delivered the balance of the more than 26 million coins he was required by the contract to produce. No one knows exactly how many coins Jarvis did deliver, but in a later accounting of how much Jarvis owed for copper the government had contributed to the project, the government credited him for \$3,985.77 for delivery of 8,968 pounds of Fugios.<sup>4</sup> At the federal standard of 2.25 pounds of copper per 100 cents, that works out to 398,577 coins. The whole sorry affair is well told by Newman in his otherwise excellent book.

**"... it is necessary to reduce the nominal value of the copper coin. . . ."**

For his suggestion that Fugios were "denomination-less coppers," Newman relies heavily upon a proposal made in the summer of 1788 to redefine the composition of cents and half cents, and to denominate the Fugio as three fourths of a cent. Numismatists know well the vagaries and volatility of the eighteenth century economy, and the value of money in it. Each state valued money differently. Indeed, Robert Morris proposed a national money unit based upon a dollar divided into 1440 units, to make it possible to convert each state's currency into a common dollar without leaving a fraction. (Morris' 1440 number worked for this purpose in only 12 of the 13 states.) Congress rejected Morris' complicated proposal in favor of the much simpler suggestion made by Thomas Jefferson, that the money unit be a dollar divided into 100 units or cents. Jefferson reasoned that the inconveniences occasioned in each state by this change would be

temporary as the 13 newly created states adapted to a more unified economy with a single money unit based upon the familiar Spanish dollar.

It appears that by May 1788, the “cent” standard set by Congress in the summer of 1786 no longer conformed to the realities of the marketplace. On May 21, 1788, the Board of Treasury, in a Report to Congress, recommended that Congress reduce the nominal value of the copper coin it had previously authorized. To accomplish this, the Board suggested that Congress change the nominal value of the 157.5 grain coins, then being struck by Jarvis to 3/4 cent; and that two new coins (cents and half cents) be struck, at a revised standard of 3 pounds of copper (instead of 2.25 pounds) to the dollar. [See, *JCC, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 34:166-67]

The Continental Congress, as it did with many reports, referred this one to a Committee. This committee consisted of Thomas Tudor Tucker, Abraham Clark, and Nathan Dane. In July of 1788, that Committee made a Report to Congress in which it concluded, “it is necessary to reduce the nominal value of the copper coin. . . .” The Committee further recommended that Congress adopt the suggestions the Board of Treasury made in May. [*JCC, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 34:329-30] As Newman himself recognizes, after the Committee’s July 1788 recommendation, “no further action was taken.”<sup>5</sup> As Congress failed to adopt the July 1788 committee recommendation, the nominal value of the Jarvis coins remained one cent, as determined by the Resolutions of April 21, 1787, (accepting the Jarvis proposal to strike copper coins to the federal standard) and August 8, 1786 (establishing the federal standard for copper coinage at 2.25 pounds of copper per 100 cents).

It is not difficult to speculate as to why Congress failed to follow through on the recommendation of the Tucker, Clark, Dane committee. By July 1788, when the committee made its report, the states had ratified the new Constitution of the United States. That document completely changed the very nature of the nation. The Continental Congress would soon be no more. The new Constitution vested all national legislative power, including the exclusive power to coin money in a new Congress of the United States. In any event, Jarvis was not delivering on his contract, a matter the Continental Congress would take up in September,<sup>6</sup> and which would later become the subject of a lawsuit in New York.<sup>7</sup>

Because the Continental Congress never adopted the change the committee recommended, the governing legislation continued to require that Jarvis strike his coins to the “federal standard” adopted in August 1786. While many of his coins were underweight,<sup>8</sup> that does not make the coins themselves anything other than cents. Put differently, while Congress considered making a change to the federal standard for cents, it never actually made the change. The coins Jarvis did strike pursuant to the April 21, 1787 authorization continued to be “cents.”

The eighteenth century economy continued its volatility. In the Act of April 2, 1792, (1 Stat. 246), the new Congress re-established the dollar as the money of account

for the United States. It continued to define a cent to be a one hundredth part of a dollar, but the new Congress re-defined the weight of the cent, making it equal to 11 pennyweights (264 grains); a 25 percent increase over the proposed 1788 definition, and more than a 2/3 increase over the original 1786 definition. The new Congress also directed that each copper coin express the denomination of the piece, cent or half cent as the case may require. Eight months later, the new Congress was again compelled to change the weight of the cent and half cent. By Act of January 14, 1793, Congress reduced the weight of the cent to 208 grains, and the weight of the half cent, to 104 grains. Two years later economic realities yet again compelled the Congress to authorize the President, by proclamation, to reduce further the weight of the cent and half cent, a power he exercised in January of 1796.<sup>9</sup> Regardless of their weight, or their value in the 18<sup>th</sup> century marketplace, cents struck throughout the 1790's, because they were struck to be cents, are still called "cents." As Congress required Jarvis to strike his coins to the federal standard for cents, we should continue to call the Fugio coins "cents."

## Conclusion

In short, the coins we today call Fugios were struck under a Resolution of Congress, and a contract made pursuant to it, that required the coins be struck to the "federal standard." The federal standard at the time of the contract, at the time of the striking and at all times material to the coinage, was the standard Congress adopted in August 1786, that defined a cent. The Fugio coins were the first cents struck by the authority of the United States. They remain so today.

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> 100 cents should weigh two and a quarter pounds. There are 7000 grains to a pound. So 100 cents should weigh 15,750 grains. (7000 grains multiplied by 2.25 pounds). Each cent therefore should weigh 157.5 grains (15,750 divided by 100).
- <sup>2</sup> Crosby, Sylvester, *The Early Coins of America*, p. 241 (Boston, 1875).
- <sup>3</sup> Arguably, Jarvis had a choice, he could have struck either Cents or Half Cents. While many of Jarvis' coins were underweight, none were so underweight as to be mistaken for half cents.
- <sup>4</sup> Taxay, Don. *The U.S. Mint and Coinage*, New York: Arco Publishing, 1966, p. 38.
- <sup>5</sup> Newman's complete sentence is: "While the bill was endorsed by Congress in July 1788, no further action was taken." The first clause of this sentence is not entirely accurate. The Continental Congress never endorsed these proposals. The Journals of the Continental Congress report that on July 16, 1788, "The Committee consisting of [Mr. Thomas Tudor Tucker, Mr. Abraham Clark and Mr. Nathan Dane] to whom was referred the report of the board of Treasury respecting the copper Coin, report that in their opinion it is necessary to reduce the nominal value of the copper coin and for the reasons stated in the report of the board of Treasury of the 21st of May last." *JCC, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 34:329-30. The Committee then submitted resolutions that conformed to the recommendations made by the Board of Treasury in May. Don Taxay, more precisely states, "On July 16, the bill was endorsed by a committee of Congress" – see, Taxay, at p. 35



(emphasis supplied). While further committees were appointed and further reports were received, there is no indication in the Journals of Congress that these proposed resolutions were ever adopted. They never became law, and the "nominal value" of the Jarvis coins remained the "federal standard" Congress previously mandated: One Cent.

- <sup>6</sup> On September 16, 1788, a Committee of Congress expressed the opinion that because Jarvis had failed to deliver the first 100 tons for which the contract called, it was "no longer obligatory upon the United States." On September 30, a different committee presumed that the Board of Treasury would take "effectual measures" to recover the coins Jarvis had promised to deliver but had not. *JCC, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, D.C., 1904-1937), 34:536, 567.
- <sup>7</sup> Taxay, at 37-38.
- <sup>8</sup> In my own small collection of Fugio Cents, two coins are full weight or more, and nine are each underweight by, on average, less than 10%. All of the coins are well circulated. Likewise, three out of my four Massachusetts coppers are between 2 and 15% underweight, and one is over.
- <sup>9</sup> This Presidential Proclamation reduced the Cent in weight to 168 grains, and the Half Cent to 84 grains. (New York, NY January 29, 1796 ).

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From Leo Shane: An Excerpt from *Ames's Almanack*, Printed by John Draper, Boston, 1761. Spelling and punctuation is as printed.

#### *Of different COINS*

The Germans, becaufe of their Eafterly Dwelling from the Englifh, were called Efterlings, fome of whom dwelling in *England*, firft of all ftamp'd a pure Coin, which from them was called *Efterling* Money ; and now leaving out the initial Letter *E*, it is called *Sterling* Money at this day. —Queen *Elizabeth* called in all the bafe Coin of her Predeceffors; fince which Time nothing but Sterling Money paffes: except for the Neceffity of the Poor, Permiſſion is given for coining Copper into Englifh Farthings and Half Pence, which are not a Tender for Rent and Debt. The Pound, Shilling, and Pence of Different Nations differ in value; thus, an Englifh *Penny* is a Scottifh *Shilling*: The *Hebrew* Talent in Silver is £.375. in Gold £.4500.

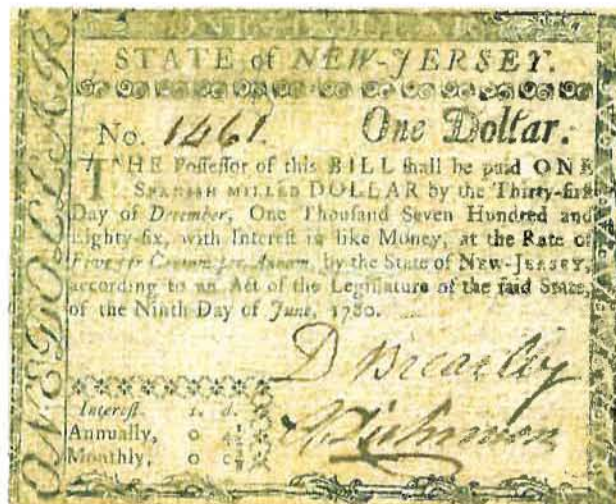
## VOICES FROM THE PAST

(Ray Williams)

Actually it was Dave Bowers and others who said “Buy the book before the coin,” and one C4 member who said “Read the book before buying the coin.” This article is actually about me buying the book after the colonial bill, but of course I recommend buying the book first!

At the first Whitman Convention in Philadelphia, I stopped by the Denly's of Boston table and Jennifer sold me a nice 1780 NJ one dollar bill. The bill had two signatures on the front and one on the reverse – unusual for a NJ bill. When I got home, I looked up this bill in Eric Newman's 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of *The Early Paper Money of America*. This book should be in the library of every C4 member, even if you don't collect colonial paper, and placed right next to your copy of Crosby's *Early Coins of America*.

As it turns out, during our Colonial and Confederation time periods, our colonial and state governments did not go to the local publick house (pub) and select unemployed drunks to sign our colonial paper money. The people whose signatures we see are all well respected and important people of the day. Every bill has a story to tell!



The bill pictured here is signed on the front by David Brearley and Philemon Dickinson. I read in Newman's book that Joseph Borden's signature on the back was a "guaranty signature." These bills were guaranteed by the Continental Government, printed in Philadelphia (instead of NJ) by Hall and Sellers, and water marked "UNITED STATES" instead of the usual "NEW JERSEY."

Now, on to the men who signed this bill... Joseph Borden was born on August 1, 1719 and was the son of the Joseph Borden that Bordentown is named for. He was a member of the Stamp Act Congress of 1765 and his signature was the first on the document sent to King George III mildly stating the displeasure of the colonies with respect to the taxation of the Stamp Act. Borden also served several terms as a judge, was a Colonel and Quartermaster in the NJ State Militia during the Revolution and was the father-in-law of two of the signers of the Declaration of Independence (Hopkinson & McKean). He died April 8, 1791.

Philemon Dickinson was born in Maryland on April 5, 1739. He was schooled in law and admitted to the bar. He became a General commanding the NJ State Militia for the bulk of the Revolutionary War. He was a representative from Delaware to the Continental Congress and later a NJ State Senator. He died in Trenton on February 4, 1809.

David Brearley was born on June 11, 1745 near Trenton, NJ. He was a lawyer and judge, residing in Allen's Town (Allentown), NJ. The British and Loyalists arrested him for treason but his friends and patriots freed him from jail. Brearley was a Colonel in the NJ State Militia, participating in key battles. He very reluctantly left his military career because NJ had asked him to become Chief Justice of the NJ Supreme Court in 1779. History records Brearley as having a supposedly "minor" part in the forming of the Constitution, as one of the delegates from NJ.

BUT, this is where buying the book after the bill comes into play. After owning this bill, a friend made me aware that C4 member Don Scarinci happened to write a book about David Brearley. The title is: *David Brearley and the Making of the United States Constitution*. After reading this book, I came away with a whole new perspective of how our Federal government was formed and what a significant role Brearley played in forming the Constitution. I learned more about Borden and Dickinson. These three signers on my bill were comrades in arms, the "Band of Brothers" of their day.

I now look at this bill and hold history in my hands. I think of the men, and their sacrifices, contributions and greatness. These are men I never studied about in school. Men who should not be forgotten, and their signatures on NJ bills will prompt others in the future to find out who they are. Thank you Don Scarinci for not only doing the research but for publishing it so we can all better enjoy our hobby. David Brearley is now given the appropriate credit for his most important contributions to our Constitution.

I challenge all of you to obtain just one colonial bill from the State in which you have an interest. You might live there, or collect coins from that state. Once you have it, go to the library and find out about the signatures. These were all hand signed, unlike what we are accustomed to today. That person put ink and a quill pen to the paper money you have in front of you. We cherish modern autographs of people like Babe Ruth, Bucky Dent and Bill Buckner, but the forgotten names from our colonial times are truly important people!



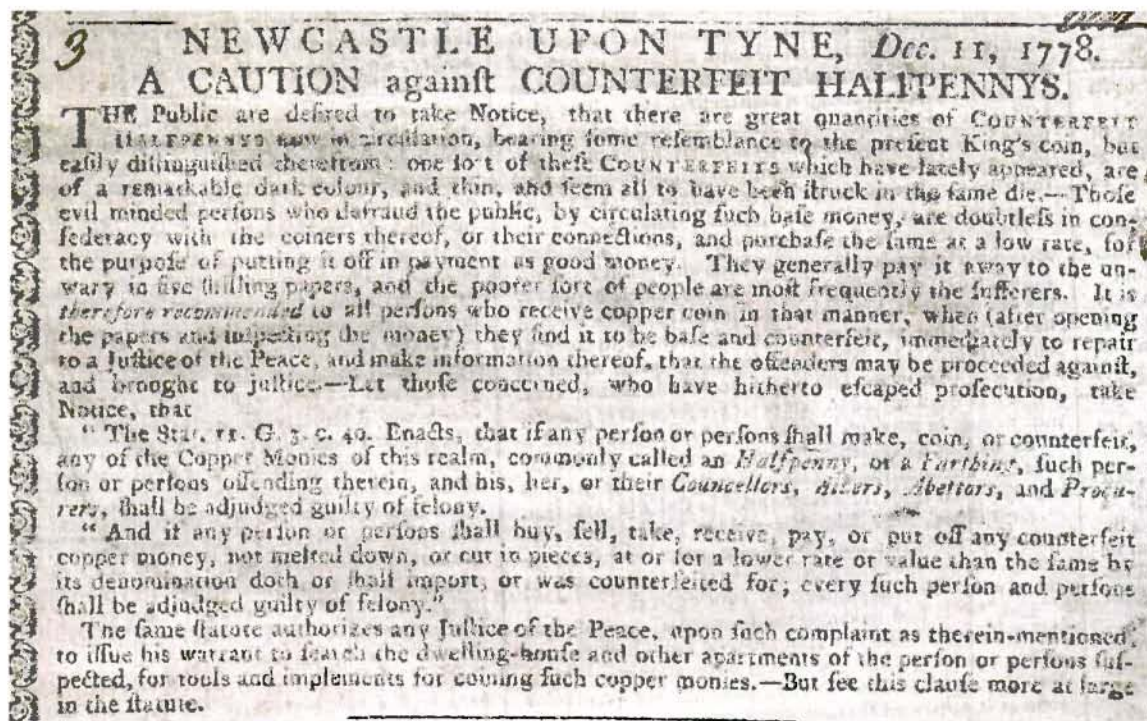
Suggested Reading:

Scarinci, Donald. *David Brearley and the Making of the Constitution*, New Jersey Heritage Press, 2005, ISBN 0-943136-36-9.

Newman, Eric. *The Early Paper Money of America*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Krause Publications, 2008, ISBN 13: 978-0-89689-326-9.

A final note: Does anyone besides me wonder why the pictured bill is denominated in Dollars but the interest chart is given in shillings and pence? Can anyone find a mistake made by the printer on this bill?

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YOU MIGHT FIND THIS INTERESTING



## THE EVOLUTION OF *REDBOOK* LISTINGS FOR NEW JERSEY STATE COPPERS

(James Higby)

Collecting large cents (and to a lesser extent, half cents) by *Redbook* variety is a popular activity among early copper enthusiasts who wish to go beyond the traditional "one coin of each date" format. Except for a handful of R-7 and R-8 die pairs, such a collection can actually be completed with decent-looking coins, given enough time, money, and patience on the part of the collector. Some readers of this publication may remember that I wrote a series of articles for *Penny-Wise* some years ago, wherein I traced the history of *Redbook* large cent variety listings from the very first (1947) edition of the *Redbook* through the then-current edition. My numismatic library, fortunately, boasts a complete set of the *Redbook*, so this information was at my fingertips, begging to be compiled.

That was before I Discovered [upper case D, *sic*] colonials. During my large cent collecting days I more or less ignored those neat coins that were listed in the section of the *Redbook* that precedes the Federal coppers, perhaps out of fear or intimidation more than anything else. I thought that some day, later in life, I might investigate the topic, but that right now, I'm concentrating on other things. All of a sudden, though, I found myself owning a New Jersey copper that had beckoned to me out of a dealer's showcase at a small Midwestern coin club Sunday show. That was followed by the acquisition of a Nova Constellatio copper which literally *screamed* "Early America" at me. So, the quest for "colonials" was on.

But, how to collect colonials was a question that came up again and again. As do so many of us, I scurried to the *Redbook*, intent upon learning everything I could about the material in that section that had been neglected for so long. There I found a somewhat methodical taxonomy and presentation that seemed understandable and workable. I use the term "somewhat" because I found some issues that could not be resolved in the light of information contained in other publications or, in a few cases, reality itself. For example, the inclusion of a 1787 New Jersey "small planchet, plain shield" in the *Redbook* listings resulted in the frustration of being unable to find a *truly* plain shield anywhere, never mind the dozen or so slabs I had seen so labeled, but encapsulating coins that clearly showed a shield outline. The same could be said for listings for "wide shield" and "narrow shield" among the Jersey varieties. There were no specifications given for those terms, it seemed.

A series of emails with Ray Williams and Will Nipper convinced me that such terms were arbitrary and that I should devise my own scheme for classifying and collecting these wonderful old New Jersey coppers. Still, one needs to have a jumping-off place, and that place for me will always be the *Redbook*. What I therefore propose to do in this article is to show how the listings for New Jersey coinage started out and then evolved through sixty-three more editions of that publication.

Following, then, are the listings for eleven New Jersey state coppers as they appeared in that very first (1947) edition of *A Guide Book of United States Coins* by R. S. Yeoman:

1786 Cent, IMMUNIS COLUMBIA Obverse, no values listed  
1786 Cent (No Date), Washington Obverse, no values listed  
1786 Cent, Eagle Obverse, no values listed  
1786 Cent, Date Under Plow Handle [*sic*], no values listed  
1786 Cent, Narrow Shield  
1786 Cent, Bridle Variety, Die Break from Nose to Shoulder  
1786 Cent, Wide Shield  
1787 Cent, "PLURIBS" Variety  
1787 Cent, Serpent Head, no values listed  
1788 Cent, Fox Variety (illustrated in actual size, *sans* pointer)  
1788 Cent, Horse Head Facing Left

Except where noted, values for the above were given for Good and Fine examples. All varieties listed were illustrated, but not clearly enough for positive attribution in all cases.

When the first edition of the *Redbook* appeared in bookstores in 1946, few people likely envisioned its going through sixty-three more editions and holding its esteemed position among both seasoned numismatists and the curious public alike, nor more than a decade into the next century. But now we have seen the 64<sup>th</sup> (2011) edition, greatly changed and expanded after a nearly 2/3 century press run. These changes and expansion did not occur all at once, but gradually accumulated from one edition to the next, as new information and new collectors entered the scene.

Following is an inventory of changes in the listings of New Jersey state coppers as they occurred in subsequent editions of the *Redbook*:

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> (1948) edition added listings for  
  
1787 Small Planchet (no use of Cent), not illustrated  
1787 Large Planchet (no use of Cent), not illustrated
- The 7<sup>th</sup> (1954-1955) edition listed values for 1787 Cent, Serpent Head, which are slightly less than those given for 1788 Cent, Fox Variety.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> (1957) edition expanded The New Jersey taxonomy by now adding  
  
1786 Cent, No Coulter, illustrated, but without definition of this obscure term  
1787 Cent, Outline to Shield (see note below)  
1788 Cent, Horse Head Facing Right (the generic 1788)

Finally, 1787, Small Planchet and 1787, Large Planchet both have Plain Shield added to their line descriptions. As there is no illustration or definition of either "Outline to Shield" or "Plain Shield," the reader is left to guess what these terms mean.

- In the 11<sup>th</sup> (1958) edition the 1786 Cent, No Coulter is now listed as

1786 Cent, Date in Exergue, No Coulter (American collectors are not generally familiar with the term *exergue*, and no definition is offered)

- In the 13<sup>th</sup> (1960) edition we see notations that (a) 5 examples are known of 1786 Cent, Date under Plow Handle, (b) there are two varieties of 1787 Cent, "PLURIBS" Variety, and (c) 1787 Cent, Outline to Shield, is extended to include the words "Large & Small Planchet" without illustrations. There remains no way to distinguish between "Large" and "Small" without specifications or examples of both in hand.

In addition, we note the addition of

1786 Cent, Washington Obv. – Eagle Rev. (unique), no values given

- The 14<sup>th</sup> (1961) edition deletes the illustration of the 1786 Cent, Bridle Variety, and removes the verbal explanation. It is listed directly below 1786 Cent, Wide Shield, with the addition of the word "Similar" in the line description. A newcomer to the series is left to guess what its special feature might be.

Photographs of Large Planchet and Small Planchet coppers are now included which show a striking contrast between the two diameters.

All the notations added in the 13<sup>th</sup> edition, as noted above, have been deleted. Likewise deleted was the "Date in Exergue" wording attached to 1786 No Coulter in the 11<sup>th</sup> edition.

The "Outline to Shield" descriptor now reads, "Pronounced Outline to Shield." A photograph, with caption "Outlined Shield," is now included, and shows a reasonably clearly-outlined shield, although the casual observer would likely still have difficulty identifying it. It remains unclear whether a "Plain" shield is the opposite of an "Outlined" shield, as opposed to being the opposite of something else.

"Serpent Head" is now called "Serpent Head Variety." 1787 Cent, "PLURIBS" Variety is now listed directly following 1787 Cent, Large Planchet, Plain Shield, as 1787 Cent, Similar, PLURIBS Variety.

The 1788 Cent, Fox Variety is listed directly below 1788 Cent, Horse's Head Facing Right, and is now called 1788 Cent, Similar, Running Fox before Legend (still no pointer to the diminutive fox, and now possible confusion as to which legend he precedes; we specialists know that some foxes follow the legend, but this is not mentioned in the listings).

- The first 17 editions of the *Redbook* included 1786 Cent, IMMUNIS COLUMBIA Obverse, pictured with the Shield Reverse. The 18<sup>th</sup> (1964) edition separates that listing to add

Eagle Reverse, illustrated, but no values given

- At long last, the editors of the 19<sup>th</sup> (1966) edition have included a pointer to the fox!
- The 22<sup>nd</sup> (1969) edition now shows values in three grades – Good, Fine, and V. Fine – for all listings except 1786 No Coulter and those not given values previously.
- Horrors, in the 23<sup>rd</sup> (1970) edition, the pointer to the fox is gone!
- The 25<sup>th</sup> (1972) Silver Anniversary edition finally corrects 1786 Cent, Date Under Plow Handle to 1786 Date Under Draw Bar.

The word “Cent” has quietly been dropped from all the listings of New Jersey coppers, starting with this edition.

So that a comparison of two editions separated by a quarter century might be made, it is now appropriate to once again present the listings of New Jersey state coppers in their entirety, as they appeared in that 25<sup>th</sup> (1972) Silver Anniversary edition:

1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA Obverse, Eagle Reverse, no values given  
1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA Obverse, Shield Reverse, no values given  
1786 (No Date) Washington Obverse, no values given  
1786 Eagle Obverse, no values given  
1786 Washington Obv. - Eagle Rev. (Unique), no values given  
1786 Date Under Draw Bar, no values given  
1786 No Coulter, values in Good and Fine  
1786 Narrow Shield, values in Good, Fine, and V. Fine henceforth  
1786 Wide Shield  
1786 Similar, Bridle Variety  
1787 Pronounced Outline to Shield  
1787 Small Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Large Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Similar, PLURIBS Variety  
1787 Serpent Head Variety  
1788 Horse’s Head Facing Right  
1788 Similar, Running Fox before Legend (pointer to fox still missing)  
1788 Horse’s Head Facing Left



This list represents a net change from eleven to eighteen varieties deemed by the editors over a quarter of a century to be significant and collectible. As the reader may notice, some of the features mentioned remain either unclear or ambiguous.

We will now see the changes, deletions, and additions to those listings down through the current edition.

- The 30<sup>th</sup> (1977) edition of the *Redbook* contained a completely re-organized colonial section. There was only one change in the New Jersey state coppers section, a most significant one: the pointer to the fox was restored, and would remain in place continuously through the current edition, although not without confusion at two points along the way.
- The re-organization mentioned above paved the way for the relocation of five New Jersey listings in the 31<sup>st</sup> (1978) edition into a new section. The 1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA coppers are now found together under the heading "Speculative Issues, Tokens, and Patterns." Sharing that heading with them are the IMMUNE COLUMBIA coppers, the CONFEDERATIO coppers, the NOVA CONSTELLATIO coppers, the silver NOVA CONSTELLATIO PATTERNS, and the Continental Dollar.
- The pointer to the fox in the 35<sup>th</sup> (1982) edition is out of register with the photograph; it points not to the fox, but to the cinquefoil below it.
- In the 36<sup>th</sup> (1983) edition, a value of \$52,000 is given for 1786 Date under Drawbar in Ex. F., the result of the 1980 Garrett sale.

It is in this same edition that the illustration of the 1787 Large Planchet was changed to one of a coin not immediately recognizable as being significantly larger than that of the Small Planchet. This unhappy situation persists through the current edition.

- The 37<sup>th</sup> (1984) edition shows the fox pointer tipped upward to point directly at the fox once more. The illustration has been lightened considerably and the animal figure can be seen more distinctly. However, without an enlargement, one still has to imagine that it is a fox.
- The 1786 Date under Drawbar is valued at \$15,000 in V. Fine in the 41<sup>st</sup> (1988) edition, \$25,000 in the 42<sup>nd</sup> (1989) edition, and \$30,000 in the 43<sup>rd</sup> (1990) edition. Mention of the Garrett sale has been deleted.
- The 46<sup>th</sup> (1993) edition now gives values of \$15,000 in Fine and \$32,000 in V. Fine for 1786 Date under Drawbar. Except for 1786 No Coulter, all other New Jersey coppers have value columns for Good, Fine, V. Fine, and Ex. Fine.

In this edition we find the first new listing in 21 years! Added to the stable is:

1787 "Camel Head" Variety (snout in high relief).

Unfortunately, it is not pictured, so the reader is again left to his imagination, which perhaps accounts for all the mis-attributions that persist to this day.

- The illustration of the generic 1788 Horse's Head Facing Right obverse has been mercifully replaced by an illustration of the 1787 "Camel Head" obverse in the 48<sup>th</sup> (1995) edition. Unfortunately, this illustration still allows for considerable guesswork.
- The *Redbook* celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> (1997) edition with the addition of the R-8:

1787 WM above Plow, no values given

In addition, 1786 Narrow Shield is now listed in Straight Plow Beam and Curved Plow Beam varieties.

We have now reached our third waypoint, a half century after the first *Redbook* saw print. The roster of New Jersey coppers now contains sixteen coins and looks like this:

1786 Date Under Draw Bar, values given for Fine and V. Fine  
1786 No Coulter, values given for Good, Fine, and V. Fine  
1786 Wide Shield, values given for Good, Fine, V. Fine and Ex. Fine henceforth  
1786 Similar, Bridle Variety  
1786 Narrow Shield, straight plow beam  
1786 Narrow Shield, curved plow beam  
1787 Pronounced Outline to Shield  
1787 Small Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Large Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Similar, PLURIBS Variety  
1787 "Camel Head" Variety (snout in high relief)  
1787 Serpent Head Variety  
1787 WM above Plow  
1788 Horse's Head Facing Right  
1788 Similar, Running Fox before Legend  
1788 Horse's Head Facing Left

- The next addition to the listings for New Jersey coppers occurs in the 53<sup>rd</sup> (2000) edition:

1788 Running Fox, No Coulter

- The fox pointer in the 55<sup>th</sup> (2002) edition is seen pointing toward the E in the legend.
- The 56<sup>th</sup> (2002) edition corrects the fox pointer issue once again, and gives us:

1787 U over S in PLURIBUS

1787 PLURIRUS Variety  
1787 Date over 1887

It also adds “no coulter” to 1786 Date under Drawbar description and changes 1788 Fox, No Coulter to:

1788 Fox, Indistinct Coulter

- A column of values for AU grade was added to the 58<sup>th</sup> (2005) edition.
- The 59<sup>th</sup> (2006) edition saw the addition of:

1786 Wide Shield, Sprig above Plow (but see note below)  
1787 Wide Shield, Sprig above Plow  
1787 Narrow Shield, Sprig above Plow

- In the 60<sup>th</sup> (2007) edition, 1786 Wide Shield, Sprig above Plow was deleted, just one year after its inclusion. Apparently, its original inclusion was the result of faulty information.
- And, finally, the 64<sup>th</sup> (2011) edition makes some minor changes in the nomenclature and adds a value column for AG, as follows:

1786 Date Under Draw Bar, values given for F and VF  
1786 Date Under Plow, No Coulter, values given for AG, G, F, and VF  
1786 Wide Shield, values given for AG, G, F, VF, EF, and AU henceforth  
1786 Wide Shield, Bridle  
1786 Narrow Shield, Straight Plow Beam  
1786 Narrow Shield, Curved Plow Beam  
1787 Pronounced Outline to Shield  
1787 Wide Shield, Sprig above Plow  
1787 Narrow Shield, Sprig above Plow  
1787 Small Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Large Planchet, Plain Shield  
1787 Large Planchet, Plain Shield, PLURIBS  
1787 Similar, Second U over S in PLURIBUS  
1787 Similar, PLURIRUS  
1787 Date over 1887  
1787 “Camel Head” (snout in high relief)  
1787 Serpent Head  
1787 WM above Plow (unique)  
1788 Horse’s Head Facing Right  
1788 Horse’s Head Facing Right, Fox Before Legend  
1788 Similar, Indistinct Coulter  
1788 Horse’s Head Facing Left

## PERSONAL COMMENTARY

After 64 editions of the *Redbook*, its New Jersey state coppers section now identifies 22 varieties. We have seen listings come and go and change. We might assume that the editors of each edition made their decisions based on a combination of collector interest, discoveries, scholarship, popularity, availability, and uniqueness. We might also expect that after that many permutations, the result would be tight and unassailable, or close to it. Whereas the foregoing is essentially a clinical treatment of a numismatic topic, in conclusion I will now inject some of my personal thoughts and biases.

- 1) While the addition of a values column for AG is welcomed, the lack of a values column for VG coins is quite conspicuous. When the value spread between Good and Fine is in the neighborhood of 3X, 4X, and even 5X, what should a collector do when faced with the necessity of pricing a VG example?
- 2) If the official listings include a die anomaly such as the bridle, why would they not additionally include listings for the popular “goiter” and “protruding tongue” varieties?
- 3) If the official listings include the misspellings PLURIBS, U over S, and PLURIRUS, shouldn't the PLUKIBUS spelling be added to complete the square?
- 4) Since we see *Redbook* listings for “camel” and “serpent” heads, it is curious that we do not see a listing for the “deer” head.
- 5) As long as I am making my wish list, I would like to see listings for the “sawtooth” and “drunken diecutter” varieties.
- 6) There remains a lack of clear parameters for shield widths and shield outlines in the *Redbook*. For the record, Crosby offered criteria for both shield width and planchet diameter but did not speak to the matter of shield outline.
- 7) In the light of the inclusion of one variety that exists in only one known example, as well as the confusion due to poorly defined or undefined terms, it remains the responsibility of each individual to determine what constitutes a collection of New Jersey coppers, complete or otherwise. Nevertheless, in consideration of space restraints, the *Redbook* gives us a good starting point to guide us in our collecting pursuits.



## THE REDISCOVERY OF CONNECTICUT 1786 5.15-S

(Richard August)

About a year and a half ago I revisited my bank to look at a Connecticut copper that had puzzled me for years. It was a 1786 Connecticut that looked like 5.14-S but which I had long ago labeled as a questionable candidate for a new variety called 5.15-S. As I looked at it once again I finally convinced myself that it was definitely not a 5.14-S and that it was a new variety which should be called 5.15-S because:

1. The colon after "CONNEC" was placed slightly differently.
2. The flat plane of the obverse was different than that of the 5.14-S.
3. Certain areas of the obverse were either weaker or stronger than that of 5.14-S, and if the candidate for 5.15-S was merely a die state of 5.14-S, then all areas of this candidate would one way or the other be weaker or stronger or show recutting (I saw no recutting).
4. There was a large cud on the obverse at 5 o'clock extending inwardly from the rim.

I then called the Connecticut maven, Robert Martin, and explained all this to him. He told me that there had been a 5.15-S listed before, but it had been delisted as a later die state of 5.14-S. He was uncertain as to whether the 5.15-S should be relisted without further evidence. I sent him a picture of my coin but it was not good enough for him to either confirm or deny my rediscovery. I brought the coin to C4 2008 and showed it to Robert, Syd Martin and Jim Goudge, and had Neil Rothchild photograph it. At that time no one I showed it to was sure that it is was as 5.15-S. When Syd got a copy of the photo of the coin he did a photo overlay of the 5.14 and the candidate for 5.15. He found that the two coins were truly different and that there were further differences in placements on the two coins.

Then at this year's C4 convention Jim Goudge came up to me and said he owed me an apology. Stunned, I asked for what. He said that I had been right about the 5.15-S. Then he proceeded to tell me that when he revisited his bank, he looked at one of his 5.14-S Connecticuts that he had purchased from the Taylor sale as a die state of a 5.14-S. Low and behold, he could see to his surprise and joy that he, too, owned one more die variety of Connecticuts than he had thought. So now according to Robert Martin and my research, there are 4 known specimens of the 5.15-S:

- Discovery coin: Canfield to New Jersey Historical Society to ANS
- Taylor auction to Goudge
- August
- A fourth reported specimen

Since I have not examined all 4 coins, I cannot accurately determine their grades. But I can say all seem to be in the range of VG-F.

## **COLONIAL NEWSLETTER CELEBRATES 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

(Roger Siboni, President, American Numismatic Society)

The year 2010 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the *Colonial Newsletter (CNL)*, a journal of record for all serious students of colonial coinage and the history of its production, circulation, counterfeiting, and collecting. Since 1960, its amazingly talented and dedicated editors, Al Hoch, Jim Spilman, Phil Mossman, and Gary Trudgen have been responsible for bringing some of the most important studies of coinage of the colonial period before the eyes of the *CNL* readership and thereby transforming the way that the money of early America is understood and collected today. We owe them an enormous gratitude for their work on behalf of the entire colonial numismatic community.

I am very pleased to announce that beginning with the August 2010 issue, Oliver Hoover will become the fifth editor-in-chief of the *Colonial Newsletter* and will guide the venerable publication into its next fifty years serving the colonial community. If you are a current member of the American Numismatic Society (and possibly even if you are not) you may already be familiar with Oliver's broad interest and knowledge of the colonial field from his various articles and reviews in the *ANS Magazine*, the *American Journal of Numismatics*, the most recent *Proceedings of the Coinage of the Americas Conference*, and his moderation of a popular colonial numismatic e-group. He now brings his expertise and infectious enthusiasm for the study of colonial coins to the *Colonial Newsletter*.

In order to celebrate the last five decades of scholarship and to start the next half-century with a bang, Oliver and the dedicated *CNL* editorial team of Lou Jordan, Phil Mossman, John Kleeberg, and John Kraljevich have a number of exiting items to fill out the remaining two issues of 2010 (August and December). These include a sneak-preview of selected pre-publication chapters of Phil Mossman's new book on counterfeits and counterfeiting in the colonial period, as well as the beginning of a serialized plate publication of the American Numismatic Society's extensive colonial coin holdings (beginning with state coppers). When this project is completed, years from now, *CNL* readers will have an unparalleled resource in the sequential pages of the publication. In addition to these major treats, the next issues of the *CNL* will also include an article on its history, a discussion of NE silver, an annotated version of Samuel Thompson's *Essay on Coining* (1783), and a critical response to John Lupia's very interesting chronology for the St. Patrick coppers presented in the Winter 2009 issue of the *C4 Newsletter*.

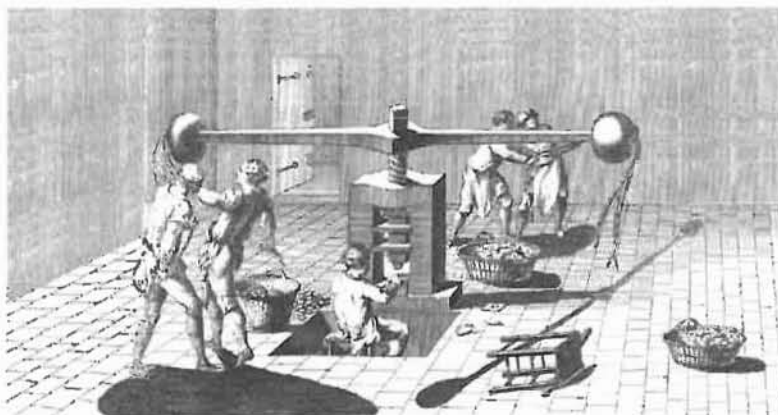
Of course, the only way to get in on all of this excitement is to become a subscriber to the *Colonial Newsletter*. A one-year subscription (3 issues) costs \$50.00 (much less than the cost of most colonial coins and related publications) for non-members of the American Numismatic Society. The subscription fee is reduced to \$35.00 for ANS members. Subscriptions can be ordered online by credit card through the American Numismatic Society's webpage at <http://www.numismatics.org/CNL/CNL> or

by contacting the ANS Membership Associate, Megan Fenselau, by email ([membership@numismatics.org](mailto:membership@numismatics.org)) or phone (212-5571-4470 ext. 117). A CD of *Colonial Newsletter* back issues in PDF format from serial number 104 to present (142 as of April 2010) is also available for \$50.00 on the same site or by contacting Megan. Information on ANS membership, which includes the reduced rate for *CNL* as well as a subscription to the *ANS Magazine*, which regularly includes features on colonial numismatic topics, can be found at <http://www.numismatics.org/Membership/Membership>.

Subscribe to the *CNL* now in order to get in on the scholarship of the past and the excitement in the future. Otherwise you will be kicking yourself later when you are scrambling for those hard-to-find and must-have back issues in order to complete your fundamental Colonial Numismatic library. The *Colonial Newsletter* has been and will continue to be the place to be for cutting-edge colonial numismatics, whether you are interested in the coinages circulating in the British, French, and Spanish colonies in America, American colonial coins produced before confederation, state coppers and related U.S. confederation issues, American colonial and revolutionary paper money, counterfeits, or tokens.

## THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

**A Research Journal in Early American Numismatics**



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## THE FIRST DEACCESSIONING OF COINS FROM THE GARRETT COLLECTION\*

(George Fuld)

In the early 1960's I became acquainted with Dr. Sara Elizabeth Freeman, curator of the Garrett collections at the Evergreen House on north Charles Street in Baltimore. Evergreen House was the home of John Work Garrett and was willed to the Johns Hopkins University on his death in 1942. It is a beautiful mansion, still well preserved and used for many events by the University. Of course, the house also housed the fabulous library of the Garretts and the amazing numismatic collection started by T. Harrison Garrett at the end of the nineteenth century.

In the early 1960's I contacted Dr. Freeman and asked if I could see some of the numismatic holdings at Evergreen. I made several visits there and at my request some of the unusual Washington items were photographed. Some of these photos were included in the 1965 revision of William S. Baker's *Medallic Portraits of Washington* published by Krause Publications. Dr. Freeman gave me full access to look at any of the Garrett coins, which I did on several occasions. This was a mind blowing experience.

Dr. Freeman retired about 1970 after serving as curator at the Evergreen House for over 20 years. She was a bachelor lady with a large standard poodle who spent his days in the museum. She maintained the catalog system of the contents at Evergreen. The only book published by her, to my knowledge, is on medically related medals, mostly from the Foundation's holdings.

The next curator at Evergreen, starting in the early 70's was Carl W. A. Carlson. I became acquainted with Carlson but did not have much contact with him in his first years at Evergreen. Around 1973, I received a phone call from Carl, asking if I would like to purchase some coins from the Garrett holdings.

Frankly, I was incredulous! At that time, my wife and I were operating Dorge Approvals, but did not have the capital to make a major purchase. I contacted my good friend, Richard Picker, to see if he was interested in pursuing the purchase of some Garrett coins. Of course, he was delighted to have a chance to buy some Garrett colonials. Before we made the pilgrimage to Evergreen, I contacted the treasurer of the university to make sure that Carlson had the authority to sell any Garrett coins. If we purchased coins, the payment was to be made payable to Carl Carlson — a process that was okayed by the University treasurer.

Dick Picker was excited by this opportunity and agreed that he would make the purchase, offering me a finder's fee on coins purchased. Of course, Dick was most

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\* [This article appeared in the E-Sylum of 9 March 2008 – it seems of interest and importance to all those colonial collectors who want to maintain accurate provenance data. -Editor]



interested in the colonial coin holdings. Carlson's ground rules were that we could purchase any coin where there were two or more of the type, not counting varieties. Pricing was to be based on the Redbook values, and basically we paid full Redbook prices!

The listing of purchased pieces follows:

NE Shilling N-2A	New Jersey Maris 7-E
Willow Tree Shilling Noe-3C	New Jersey Maris 9-G
Oak Tree Twopence Noe-31	New Jersey 1786 Maris 17-J
Oak Tree Threepence Noe-28.5	New Jersey 1786 Maris 18-L
Oak Tree Sixpence Noe-16	New Jersey 1786 Maris 18-N
Oak Tree Sixpence Noe-22	New Jersey 1786 Maris 21-O
Oak Tree Shilling Noe-4	New Jersey 1786 Maris 21-R
Oak Tree Shilling Noe-5	New Jersey 1786 Maris 22-P
Oak Tree Shilling Noe-9	New Jersey 1786 Maris 23-R
Oak Tree Shilling Noe-11	New Jersey 1786 Maris 24-Q
Pine Tree sixpence Noe-33a	New Jersey 1787 Maris 28-L
Pine Tree Shilling Noe-4	New Jersey 1787 Maris 37-J
Pine Tree Shilling Noe-10	New Jersey 1787 Maris 37-Y
Pine Tree Shilling Noe-17	New Jersey 1787 Maris 38-a
Pine Tree Shilling Noe-23	New Jersey 1787 Maris 38-b
Pine Tree shilling Noe-26.3	New Jersey 1787 Maris 38-c
Maryland fourpence die trial	New Jersey 1787 Maris 43-Y
Maryland sixpence	New Jersey 1787 Maris 44-d
Rosa Halfpenny 1722	New Jersey 1787 Maris 45-e
Rosa Halfpenny 1723 Crowned rose	New Jersey 1787 Maris 48-f
Rosa Penny 1722 with two rosettes	New Jersey 1788 Maris 51-g
Rosa Penny 1723	New Jersey 1788 Maris 55-l
Rosa Twopence 1723 no period	New Jersey 1788 Maris 56-n
St. Patrick's Farthing Silver	New Jersey 1788 Maris 56-n over Vermont
Higley 1737 Value of threepence	New Jersey 1787 Maris 63-r
Virginia Penny 1773	New Jersey 1787 Maris 64-n
Vermont R-2	New Jersey 1788 Maris 66-u
Vermont Ryder -8	Immunis Columbia 1787

As best I can determine, this is a complete list of the colonials purchased in 1973.

## MORRO CASTLE – BETTS 443

(Marc Mayhugh)

An interesting specimen in the Betts series of medals illustrating American history is Betts 443, "Capture of the Morro Castle, Havana." These medals are located in the chapter entitled "The Period of Intercolonial Wars,"<sup>1</sup> and they are unusual in that they commemorate a gallant defeat rather than a victory, unlike most of the other medals in this section. In this case, the medals are Spanish, and memorialize the two courageous commanders of Havana who lost their lives in the defense of their post, Don Luis Vincente de Velasco and Vincentio Gonzales. The commission of the medals, albeit a year after the defeat, must have taken a great deal of resolve on the part of the Spanish King who would have rankled every time he thought of losing Havana to the British, Havana being the jewel of the Caribbean, and one of Spain's most valuable possessions.



Late in the Seven Year's War, or as it was known in America, The French-Indian War, Spain became involved in a conflict which for the most part was over. The British had already expelled the French from America and had made significant gains elsewhere. The decision by the King of Spain, Charles III, normally considered a wise monarch, especially by Spanish standards,<sup>2</sup> to side with France was to prove disastrous to Spanish New World holdings. The British, ever envious of Spanish overseas possessions, jumped at the chance to attack the weakened Spanish empire. Spain, once feared for her famous phalanx of piked infantry and brave conquistadors, had, over the ensuing centuries, become the laughing stock of European powers, bled white, and constantly in debt, despite the massive gold and silver deposits of her New World holdings .

Realizing the weakened position of Spain, the British wasted no time sending a large squadron against Havana under the command of Admiral George Pocock, with land troops being led by the Duke of Ablemarle.<sup>3</sup> At this point, the telling of the story is somewhat conflicting, some sources claiming the Spanish were caught completely by

surprise<sup>4</sup> and others stating that the defenders sank ships in the harbor and raised a boom across the entrance to the bay,<sup>5</sup> something they would have had trouble doing if caught unawares. Accounts of troop strength on both sides is also conflicting, but suffice it to say the British entered the harbor and began a lengthy siege of Morro Castle.

Construction on Morro castle had begun in 1589, under the supervision of Bautista Antonelli and was finished in 1630.<sup>6</sup> It served for years as a deterrent to pirates and enemy warships, yet the British attack in 1762 was not to be denied, despite horrendous losses in manpower. The siege which began in March decimated the British forces and by mid July eight thousand sailors and soldiers were suffering from various diseases and exposure to the Cuban heat.<sup>7</sup> However, supplied by fresh troops from America<sup>8</sup> and a contingent of slaves from Jamaica, the British were able to dig a mine beneath the walls of the fort and blast through them, storm the fort, and doom the defenders of Havana.

Descriptions of how the two Spanish leaders fell are rather grandiose, not to mention sketchy. J.B. Crabtree had this say of Velasco:

Captain Velasquez, or Velasco, the owner of an illustrious name, deserted by his cowardly soldiers, fell mortally wounded, and breathing his last requested to be sent into the city that he might die in Havana.<sup>9</sup>

Crabtree asserts that his request was granted. Another account attributed to the *Annual Register of 1762* and described in the LaRiviere sale describes the deaths of the Spanish commanders as such:

The English troops... mounted the breach, entered the fort, and formed themselves with so much celerity ... about four hundred [Spaniards] were slaughtered on the spot or ran to the water, where they perished. Four hundred more threw down their arms, and obtained quarter. The second in command, the Marquis de Gonsales, fell whilst he was making brave but ineffectual efforts to animate and rally his people. Don Lewis de Velasco, the governor who had hitherto defended the fort with such obstinate bravery seemed resolved in this extremity to share the same fate with it... he received a mortal wound, and fell, offering his sword to his conquerors. The English wept with pity and admiration over that unfortunate valor which had occasioned them so many toilsome hours, and cost them so many lives.<sup>10</sup>

It is a somewhat remarkable that the British would hold these sentiments after several long months of a brutal siege resulting in thousands of deaths from gastric disorders and yellow fever. It has been estimated that 87% of the 5,366 soldiers who died suffered from these ailments, and that the diseases were also responsible for 95 % of the 1,300 sailor deaths that occurred.<sup>11</sup>

It is somewhat odd that the British did not issue a medal to commemorate this

event. After all, they lost thousands of men, seized one of Spain's most prized possessions in the new World, and bought home a booty that included \$3,000,000 in gold and silver while capturing eleven Spanish warships.<sup>12</sup> The victory apparently meant something to a common soldier or sailor for in Ray Bryne's "Coins and Tokens of the Caribbes" is a 1761 Spanish pillar dollar with the inscription "Taken At Havana 13 Augt. 1762" with owners initials at the side (W.S.) – a homemade tribute to the English victory.<sup>13</sup>

The British occupied Havana for nearly a year and then gave Cuba back to Spain in exchange for Florida when the war ended. Most accounts agree the occupation by the British was extremely beneficial to Cuba, as her ports were opened to worldwide commerce. One source states that "during the brief period, instead of the usual five or six merchant vessels, 727 touched at Havana. Charles III, profiting by this example, opened the trade of the island to all parts of Spain and relaxed many oppressive commercial restrictions."<sup>14</sup>

To do justice to this medal I have included Betts description below.

Capture of the Morro Castle, Havava.

443. 1762. Obv. LVDOVICO DE (in monogram) VELASCO ET VINCENTIO GONZALEZ Accolated busts in profile to right, of the two Spanish officers named in the legend. They are dressed in the costume of the time, with coats having straight lapels, ruffled shirts, mantles thrown back, etc. Velasco wears a wig tied with a ribbon behind, and locks flowing on his shoulder; Gonzalez wears a medal on his breast which bears a small cross. Under the drapery at the right, PRIETO. (the designer of the medal.)

Rev, IN. MORRO. VIT. GLOR. FVNCT. (They ended their lives in glory in the Morro Castle.) In exergue, in four lines, ARTIVM ACADEMIA/ CAROLO REGE CATHO? ANNVENTE CONS./ A MDCCLXIII (The Academy of Arts, Charles the Catholic King consenting, has consecrated this [to their memory] in the year 1763.) View from the harbor of the final assault on the Morro Castle, Havana, and the explosion of the magazine, which carries into the air the bodies of its defenders; at the left are three large men of war; at the right, another in sinking condition; a small boat is leaving it, and a larger one is rowed to the right; the British soldiers are storming a breach in the walls, and bodies of troops are seen in the background at the left; and the city and a small vessel in the distance at the right.





Morrow Castle from an old Stereo Card

### ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Betts
- <sup>2</sup> Charles III, along with his predecessor, Ferdinand VI, were known in Spanish history as the “benevolent despots,” restoring some semblance or order to Spanish empire after years of decline. A good overview of their actions can be found in “The Spanish Centuries: A Narrative History of Spain from Ferdinand and Isabella to Franco” by Alan Lloyd, Doubleday, 1968.
- <sup>3</sup> Some sources state the Earl of Albermarle was Admiral Keppel (see The sale of the cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere part III, page 102) while others cite the Earl of Albermarle as being Keppel’s older brother, George, with Admiral Keppel being Pocock’s second in command (located in Empires at War by William M. Fowler Jr. ). Admiral Keppel has his own Bett’s medal, Betts 564.
- <sup>4</sup> Kamen, Henry. *Empire; How Spain became a World Power 1492-1763*.
- <sup>5</sup> Chartrand, Rene. *Fortress: The Spanish Main 1492-1800*, 2006.
- <sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, p. 48.
- <sup>7</sup> Fowler, William & M. Fowler Jr. *Empires At War: The French and Indian War and the Struggle for North America, 1754-1763*, 2005.
- <sup>8</sup> The commentary under the bronze example of this medal in the above cited LaRiviere sale states that Lawrence Washington, brother to George Washington, accompanied these troops. This is quite impossible as Lawrence Washington had died some years earlier. The author was most probably recalling Admiral Vernon’s siege of Cartagena, which Lawrence did, indeed, participate in.
- <sup>9</sup> Crabtree, J. B. *The passing of Spain: Ascendancy of America*, 1898, p. 221.
- <sup>10</sup> Bowers and Merena Galleries. “The Cabinet of Lucien M. LaRiviere -- Part III,” New York City, May 21, 2001, p. 102.
- <sup>11</sup> Kamen, *op. cit.*
- <sup>12</sup> Crabtree, *op. cit.*
- <sup>13</sup> Peters, Jess. Sale no. 78, “Coins and tokens of the Caribees by Ray Byrne,” June 1975, p.20, lot 200.
- <sup>14</sup> James, Herman G, & Percy A. Martin. “The Republics of Latin America”, p 406. 1923

\*\*\*THE FRENCH-AMERICAN CORNER\*\*\*

## AN UNUSUAL 30 DENIERS COIN

(Jack Howes)

Pictured is a very nice 1711-D 30 Deniers or Mousquetaire, with great color and surfaces for a series noted for porous surfaces and ugly coins. The coin is unusual for another reason, as shown by the following images. There is an absolutely clear double strike in the obverse (left images, Figure 1). Note the position of the ET N on the understrike – ET is right at the bottom of the image on the understrike. Now on the right images of Figure 1, I think you can clearly see there is also some kind of understrike. The NAV is quite clear at its top left; however, note that it is incuse and backwards. It is clearly an obverse brockage. How did this happen?



Figure 1 – 1711-D 30 Deniers. Lower Images are Blowups of the Upper Images

I think the only way this could happen is if the following situation occurred (see Figure 2):

(1) Coin A is struck normally, (2) it sticks to the Reverse die, (3) a new blank Coin B (our coin under discussion) is fed into the press (manually or maybe via some feeder type mechanism), (4) Coin B is struck as an obverse brockage (one side normal, one side obverse incuse from Coin A acting like a die), (5) Coin B sticks to the obverse die but Coin A is now ejected (maybe by someone flicking it off the die or maybe it just came loose), (6) Coin B stays but rotates slightly and is struck again by both obverse and reverse dies. So to test this scenario, the incuse lettering should be exactly opposite the same letter on the understrike and IT IS, you can see this in the images at bottom of previous pages – Look for the N understrike on the left and incuse N on right.

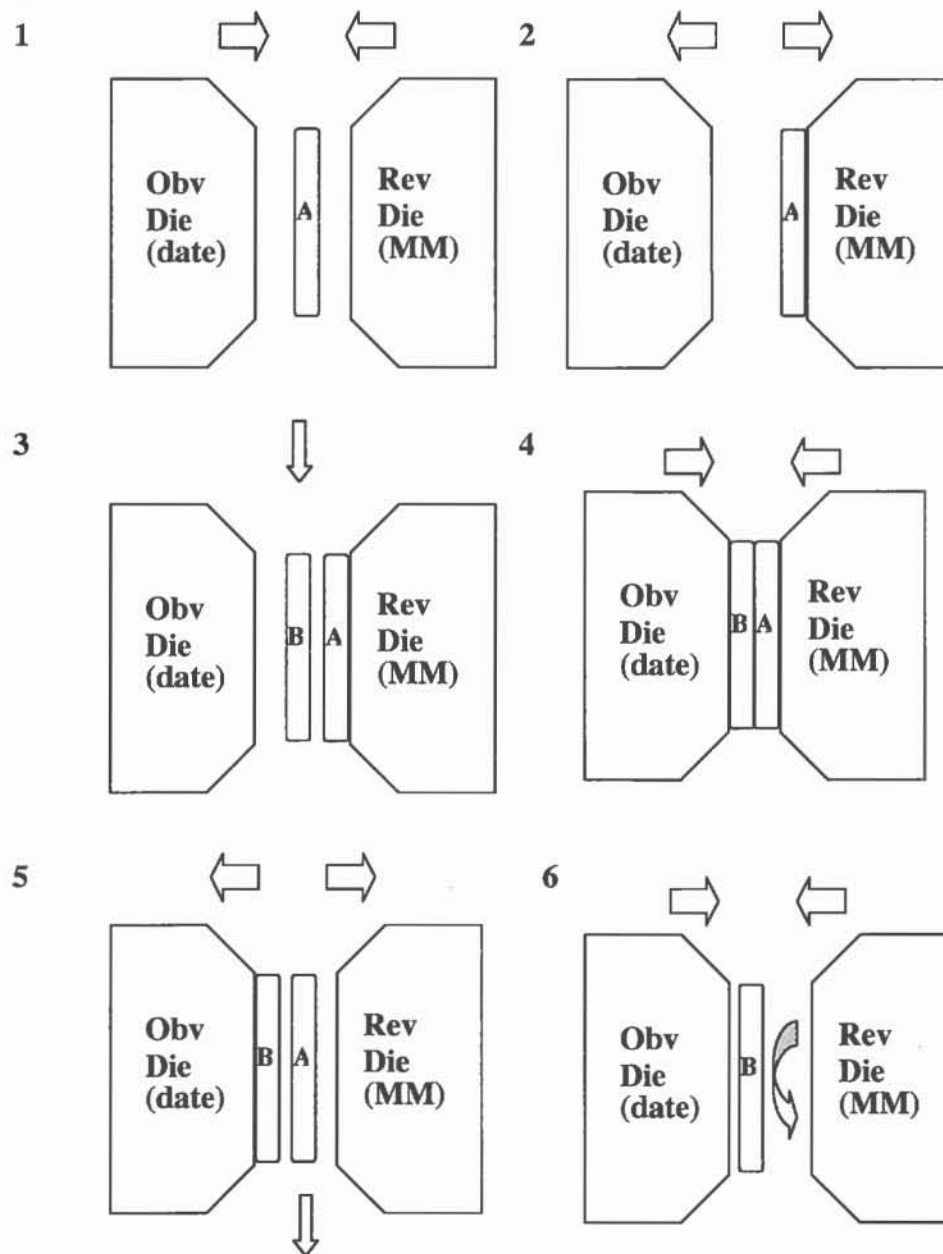


Figure 2.

NOTE: as editor, I queried Jack as to whether this situation could have been caused by a heavily clashed die. His response follows:

I think it is unlikely for the following reasons:

- 1) if it were clashing, there would likely be more examples;
- 2) it's very sharp and well defined all over the coin, not just NAV and I am guessing that the struck coin was work hardened and acting like a die;
- 3) clashing I have seen seems most often to be mushy; and, lastly but most importantly;
- 4) clashing would not explain two strikes on the obverse and only one on the reverse.

But the scenario I propose explains all of what I see.



## THE NEW JERSEY TEA PARTY – 1774

(Roger Moore, M.D.)

Though the Boston Tea Party in December 1773 is widely known and acknowledged as a key element in the evolution of the American Revolution, lesser known acts of rebellion were also actively being undertaken in other Colonies. One amusing episode which caught my eye while reading a history of New Jersey's Cumberland County was the New Jersey Tea Party. Though it was actually a tea burning, rather than a dumping of tea into the sea, it served as yet another act of defiance that led to our eventual independence from British rule. I have directly extracted a few paragraphs from the book which provides a flavor of the event.\*

*Those familiar with the history of the English colonies in North America will remember that it was the persistence of the British government in taxing the people, without allowing them representation in Parliament that brought on the Revolution and hastened their Independence. In 1773 all these taxes were repealed but the duty on tea, which our forefathers not only resolved not to use, but which they would not suffer to be landed and offered for sale. The East India Company, which then had the monopoly of this commodity, was encouraged to send it to this country, and was allowed a drawback of all duties paid in England, it being supposed that the cheapness of the article would tempt our people to purchase largely. Cargos were sent to all the large seaports; but at some places the tea was not permitted to be landed, and at others it was stored, but not allowed to be sold. In December a party disguised as Indians boarded one of the ships in Boston harbor, and threw the tea into the water.*

*A brig called the Greyhound, bound for Philadelphia, with a cargo of tea, the captain of which was afraid to proceed to his place of destination, in the summer of 1774 came into the Cohansey, landed his tea, and had it stored in the cellar of a house standing in front of the then open market-square. This house is not now standing, and the market-square has been inclosed (sic) as private property. Imitating the example of the Bostonians, a company of near forty men was organized with the concurrence of the committee of safety of the county, of which Jonathan Elmer, the royal sheriff was an active member, who disguised themselves as Indians, and on the night of November 22, 1774, broke into the store-house, took out the boxes of tea, and burned them in a neighboring field. The writer remembers to have known in his boyhood one of the party, a man named Stacks, who, it is said, tied strings around his pantaloons at his ankles, and stuffed them with tea, which he carried home to his family, and thus got the name of Tea-Stacks.*

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\* Extracted from: Elmer, Lucius Q. C. *Early Settlement of Cumberland County of New Jersey and of the Currency of This and the Adjoining Colonies*, Bridgeton, NJ:George Nixon, 1869, pp. 14-15.

## **A SECOND EXAMPLE OF AN UNUSUAL GEORGE I INDIAN PEACE MEDAL** (Frank Steimle)

I recently acquired a brass medal from an English dealer, who said he got it years ago from a "Main Line" estate sale in Maple Glen, PA. The obverse was that of a George I Indian Peace Medal (Quarcoopome type III, Jamieson 2, Betts 165), but the reverse appeared to be a brockage of the obverse bust (Figures 1 and 2). I was curious about this apparent error and looked for any others in catalogs and other publications, and found to my surprise, two such listings. The first listing was in the Bowers and Merena's 1987 Taylor Collection sale, lot 1136, without a photograph but called unique. The second listing was in Stacks' September 7 – 8, 2005 sale, lot 202, and was noted as being ex-Taylor and included a photograph. There is a minor problem, however: the first Taylor listing noted the medal as having a diameter of 40.9 mm and a weight of 230.7 gns; while the later Stacks listing noted the same piece was now 39.8 mm but weighed 267.5 gns, and the grade advanced from choice Fine to choice VF. I think what happened was the Stacks cataloger wanted to borrow the metrics from the Taylor lot and misread the description, picking up the metrics from the previous lot (which perfectly fits). This is just to straighten out that there appears to be only one other "brockage" example – the Taylor medal – and that the original Taylor medal metrics are probably correct while the Stack's catalog metrics are probably wrong.

My smooth, chocolate brown example is 40.5 mm wide measured horizontally across the bust, weighs 231.4 gns, and with an edge thickness of ~1.7 mm. It has slightly more apparent wear on the obverse (or striking weakness), but the reverse seems less corroded and stronger than the Taylor medal. My medal also has evidence of being double struck off-center, with remnants of denticles across the reverse incuse bust upper chest, so this is unlikely to be a cast copy of the Taylor medal. There are some curious scrape marks on either side of the incuse bust, too, on my example. The incuse reverse bust seems to be in perfect alignment with the obverse bust.

The Taylor Collection cataloger made some interesting observations about this medal type: there are edge denticles on the incuse reverse, as per the standard deer, tree, sun, bowman reverse, i.e., Quarcoopome reverses E and F, but these are not found on the standard type III obverse. Also, as would be expected from a true brockage, there is no evidence on either medal of the obverse legend "George King of Great Britain" on the incuse bust reverses. Nor is there any evidence of any underlying elements of the Type E or F reverses; the sun at least being relatively strongly made and near the edge might be expected to leave some trace on an overstrike. Perhaps the denticles were applied in a separate striking, but that doesn't make much sense. The scrape marks on my examples could be evidences of an effort to remove the central elements of the original reverse, leaving only the denticles before re-striking, thus explaining the light weights – but why?

Quarcoopome listed 14 known examples of the type III medal in 1987, none being brockages. Assuming that there may be about 20 type III's around now including the two "brockages," these two "error" strikes could constitute 10% of known type III examples. That is a fairly high single type error ratio. The nine type III medals listed by Quarcoopome with weights ranged from 14.9 gms to 21.3 gms (229.9 - 328.7 gns) with a mean of 19.0 gms (293.2 gns), puts the two sibling "brockage" medals at the lightest end of the range of those type III obverse medals for which the weights are known, with only one other medal, the 14.9 gm (229.9 gn) example near them in weight.

These two medals are puzzling. Could it be that these "brockages" were not errors, but intentionally struck, and a new variety? Could it be that the maker was having a problem getting the obverse bust to stand out to their satisfaction given the pressure his machinery could apply, and he tried to "pop out" the obverse bust more with perfectly aligned raised bust "hub" die reverse pressure? This would also explain the thin brass planchets used on the two "brockage" examples. But did he have a second, nearly identical raised bust hub die without legends cut in yet to do this? That would explain the presence of the denticles on the die used for creating pressure. He may have solved this pressure problem later, and used one or more leftover thin planchets with standard reverses, e.g., the outlying 229.9 gn example. If he had a second hub die, what happened to it?

As often happens, additional examples of curious pieces leads to more questions, not answers. Comments?

#### ENDNOTES

Betts, C.W. *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals* (1894), Quarterman Publ. Inc., Reprint 1972.

Jamieson, M.A. *Medals awarded to North American Indian Chiefs, 1714-1922* (1936). London Reprint, 1961.

Quarcoopome, E.N. "The Indian Peace Medal of George I," *The Medal in America, ANS COAC Sept. 26-27, 1987* (Alan Stahl, Editor), New York: American Numismatic Society, pp. 1-17.



Figure 1. Obverse of the  
Peace Medal



Figure 2. Reverse of the  
Peace Medal



## MUTED GEORGE SPEAKS

(John W. Louis)

The world of Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpence and Farthings continues to be an exciting place to dwell. Most of the varieties of the well-established Colonial Era and State Coinage Series have long been identified, classified and collected. However newly found specimens of contemporary counterfeits have fascinated researchers and spurred on collectors to find the best known variety of their favorite Family.

The Muted George variety of Counterfeit Halfpence has already been documented and a handful of these coins are known to exist today. The named derived from George's expressionless face and shallow features.



Fast forward several years to the Stacks Americana Sale of January 2008 featuring some beautiful and rare coins from the estate of Mike Ringo. In that sale we find a nearly uncirculated example of Muted George who now appears far from muted!



A couple of other examples surfaced and we now have a sort of "Photograde" perspective as a Muted George transforms into one with round candy apple cheeks and full speaking capabilities. (...if only coins could speak!)

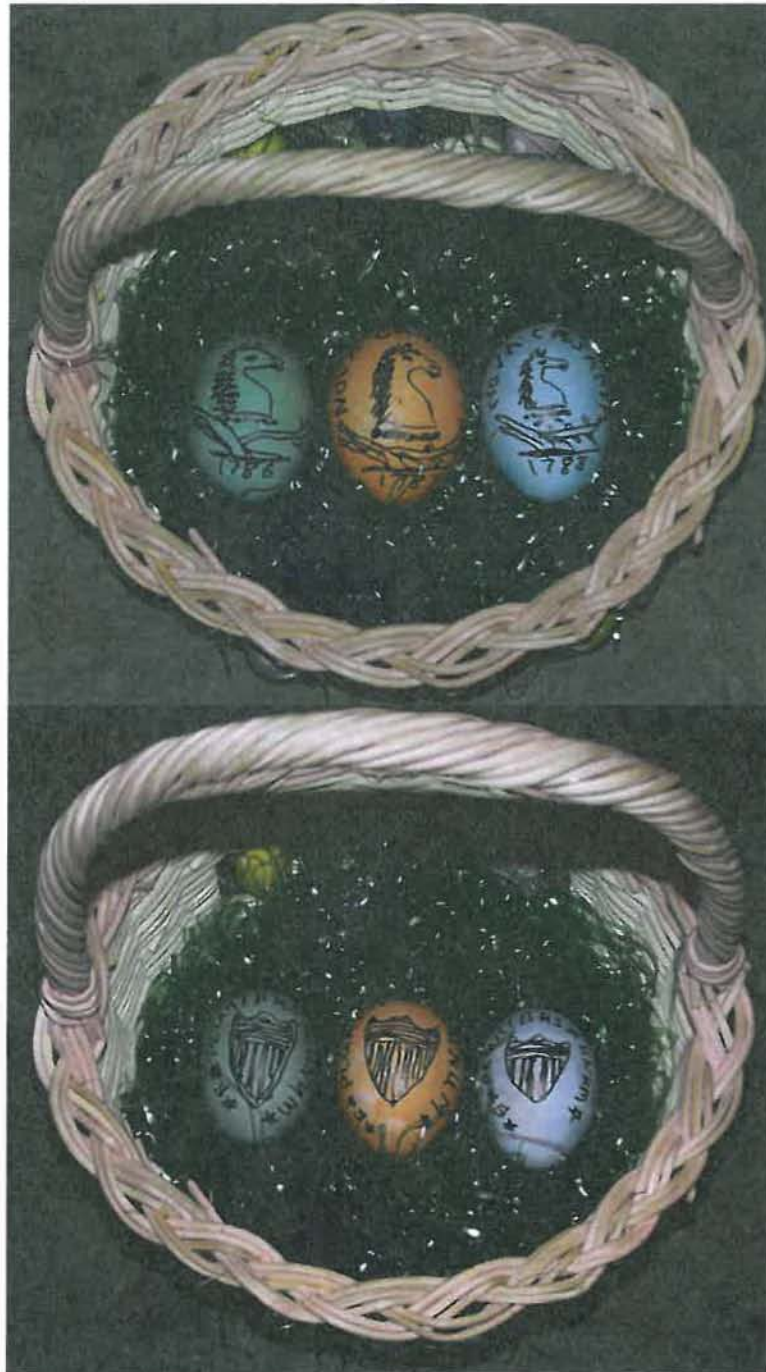


Stay tuned to the latest news as your Non-Regal Research Team continues to seek out and explore the strange new world of Contemporary Counterfeits!

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Although many of us can be accused of becoming obsessed with our hobby, it is important that we each take time for other things as well, as illustrated by the following communication from Buell Ish. Editor

E-mail from Buell Ish: Easter! Who says I can't get coins off my mind long enough to enjoy a family activity like Easter egg dyeing? Buell



\*\*\*\*\*ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\*\*\*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE 2010 C4 ELECTIONS

Since the bylaws of the club cannot specifically cover every contingency, the following are guidelines that the 2010 Election Committee (Syd Martin and Leo Shane) feel are appropriate. We will execute our duties according to these guidelines. Nothing in these guidelines is contrary to the existing C4 bylaws. Anyone having objections are encouraged to contact their Regional VP, the club President or the club National VP to make their concerns known.

- It is an honor to run for, and perhaps serve as, an Officer of C4. It is healthy to have an influx of new ideas. Any C4 member in good standing may run for any elected office, with the exception of Regional VP candidates who must live in the region in which they reside.
- Any member in good standing can nominate themselves or another member for any office except as noted above for the location requirements of the Regional VP office.
- No member can hold more than one elected office in the club (Bylaw Rule). A member may, however, run for up to two offices (not covered in the bylaws). In the event the member wins both offices, they will be awarded the higher office and the runner up of the other office will be declared the winner. In the event there is no second candidate running for the then-vacant post, the new C4 President will nominate a candidate and with approval of the new board, that member will assume that board position. **To avoid this situation, the Election Committee strongly encourages members to nominate and run for office so that there is more than one candidate for every office.**
- Nominations must be received by one of the C4 Election Committee Members in written or email form by 11:59 PM EST 15 June 2010. Nominations will be acknowledged by one of the election committee members. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, that means we did not receive the nomination. It is the responsibility of the person nominating someone to make sure that the committee has received it.
- All nominees will be contacted to ask for their ability and willingness to run. If they accept, their name will appear on the ballot to be mailed with the Summer (July, 2010) *Newsletter*. If they decline, no further correspondence on the matter will be made.



- All nominees are invited to write a short (300 words limit) explanation of their ideas and qualifications which will be sent along with the ballot in the Summer (July 2010) *Newsletter*. The election committee will review these writeups for appropriateness. No negative campaigning will be allowed.
- There is no disrespect in running against an incumbent officer in the C4 election. We many times compete with our friends for coins at auction or on ebay and then congratulate them. Running against a fellow C4 member in a friendly and professional manner is good for C4.
- The election committee will be the only members who know the actual vote count of the election. This is to avoid potential or perceived embarrassment and encourage more candidates to run. If there is a dispute or question of the results, the C4 board (minus any board member involved in the dispute) will call for a committee to investigate and render a verdict.
- Only the individual elected to each office will be announced in the *Newsletter* and no vote counts will be published.
- The C4 officers for each position will be announced in the Fall issue of the C4 *Newsletter*. Installation of officers will be accomplished at the General Membership Meeting during the C4 Convention in November 2010.

We encourage and congratulate all candidates who run for office. It is your willingness to serve the membership that makes C4 the great club that it is. If you do not win an election, it is no disgrace. By identifying yourself as one who is willing to give your time, you become a resource to the club for many projects and tasks to achieve the club goal of education and fellowship. Thank You!

Syd Martin (SFMartin5@comcast.net)

Leo Shane (Leo\_J\_Shane@hotmail.com)



**Note Pioneer Jacob Perkins Honored in Newburyport, MA  
Dr. James Haxby; Obsolete Bank Note Expert to Speak**

On Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 1:00 pm, the Historical Society of Old Newbury, Cushing House Museum will be holding a ceremonial "ribbon cutting" to honor the purchase and first phase of restoration of the Jacob Perkins Printing and Engraving Building, 98 High Street Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Although Jacob Perkins was involved with bank-note plates from the 1790s onward, his significant involvement dates from about 1803, making the period of the Perkins firm ca. 1803-33. In 1808, when his brother Abraham Perkins joined the firm, Jacob mortgaged his frame home at 14 Fruit Street in Newburyport and had a three-story brick building constructed at the back of the lot.





(The address has recently been changed to 98 High Street.) Consequently, the Perkins building was the site of the business for 25 of those 30 years.

It is this 1808 three-story brick edifice built and used by Jacob Perkins which is being acknowledged as the earliest examples of a printing and engraving building extant.

Please join the Historical Society of Old Newbury, The Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank, and Dr. James Haxby for a tour of the printing and engraving building followed by a lecture by Dr. Haxby regarding Jacob Perkins and the birth of currency in the United States. Admission Free; Please call for reservations and details – 978-462-2681.



### **C4 Hardbound Catalogues**

I have had a number of inquiries about the availability of hardbound issues of the C4 auction catalogues for the past several years. I spoke to Chris McCawley during the C4 Convention and told him that I would contact the membership to determine the demand for such catalogues, and what we can do to meet it. I'd like those that collect the hardbound C4 Catalogues to note which auctions they are missing from Auction 9 (2003) to the present, and contact me. My contact info is in the front of this issue. We do have a few earlier issues but not many.

I will compile the needs of the members, contact Chris and get things moving. Please get in touch with me as soon as possible, but definitely within a month of receiving this issue.

The C4 Catalogues have become a valuable resource in all of our libraries. Several catalogues have become very collectable as the definitive works on such series as Machin's Mill, St. Patrick's, NJ Coppers, Connecticuts, and others. They are packed with good information; for example, coins that might not attract attention in a major auction will sometimes have descriptions and information that are not in standard reference books. Thank you Chris and Bob for our auctions, and thanks to Mike Hodder, Tom Rinaldo, John Kreljevich, John Agre, Dave Wnuck, and any others that helped in the cataloguing over the years.

Ray Williams, President

### **C4 Offers Important Colonial Books**

For more information on the following three books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org). These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: [numislit@aol.com](mailto:numislit@aol.com).

- (1) Jordan, Lou. "John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002.
- (2) Vlack, Robert, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004.
- (3) Martin, Sydney. "The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007.

## THE COPPER COINS OF VERMONT – AVAILABLE AGAIN

As a result of a small number of unbound copies of the Carlotto book having been located, a new binding has been prepared to make the book available after having been out of print for a number of years. The new binding, prepared by the Harcourt Bindery in Boston, is in a fine brown cloth, rounded spine, with the Vermont logo stamped in copper on the front board. Each contains a letterpress bookplate cast by the Firefly Press, also in Boston, which is numbered and signed by Tony Carlotto. A single page errata is also bound in. While otherwise textually identical to the original, it is a superior binding and adds the cachet of a signed bookplate. While we have begun selling the book to the general public, we have reserved the lowest numbers for C-4 members. The price is \$150.00 plus \$6.00 shipping.

A very small number of unbound copies was also reserved for two styles of numbered and signed leather bindings and are priced at \$550.00 and \$375.00, each plus \$8.00 shipping. Orders for all books should be sent to Charles Davis, Box 547, Wenham Mass 01984



### NEW DUES INFORMATION.....

**C4 dues have increased to \$25 per year! We have suspended accepting Life Membership Applications while the C4 Board seeks advice with respect to restructuring the costs vs. expenses.**



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**Annual dues are currently \$25.00 for Regular Membership and \$10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the C4 Newsletter envelope. You may pay your dues for next year at the C4 convention in Boston, or mail a check (made out to "C4") to...**

**Charlie Rohrer**  
**C4 Treasurer**

████████████████████

**Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes my job easier and is much appreciated!**

The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :

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## **MEDALLIC PORTRAITS OF ADMIRAL VERNON**

### **Medals Sometimes Lie**

By John W. Adams and Dr. Fernando Chao (h), with the collaboration of Anne E. Bentley. Kolbe & Fanning, Gahanna, Ohio, 2010. 240 pages, finely illustrated throughout in color. 9 by 12 inch format. Well bound in cloth with a pictorial dust wrapper. \$95.00 plus \$5.00 shipping in the United States and \$25.00 elsewhere.

Interest in this fascinating historical series has captured the attention of famous numismatists and collectors on three continents. Since the issuance of these medals in 1739-1741, no less than fourteen works on the topic have been published, the first in 1835 and the last in 1966. None of these earlier efforts succeeded in creating a practicable attribution system. Thus, despite their almost irresistible allure, Vernon medals have tended to overwhelm collectors with their apparent complexity at the same time that they were the bane of professional cataloguers. No longer will this be so. The authors have succeeded in gathering high quality images of all 275 varieties and modern technology makes possible the publication of these images in book form. The images combined with a new, user-friendly attribution system makes the identification of Vernon varieties both easy and accurate.

Earlier authors, a group which includes a marquess, an earl, a general and the president of a country, have not gotten the history right. English speaking writers tended to view Admiral Vernon as the conquering hero, while Spanish speaking writers regarded him as a low grade buccaneer. Adams and Chao have dug deeply into original source material in both languages which, in turn, has permitted them to publish some startling conclusions

The authors' "History of the Events" sets the historical record straight and is accompanied by a bibliography, a guide to collecting the series, a chapter on the metals utilized, and a vital series of appendices comprising concordances, a census, biographical notes on prominent collectors, a guide to grading, and other germane topics. These sections are the soul of the book; its heart is the extensive, detailed catalogue of "The Medals Themselves," comprising two thirds of the volume. Here, over 275 medals are depicted in full color enlargements, accompanied by painstakingly detailed descriptions printed in two colors for ease of use. Dr. Joel J. Orosz has termed the book "one of the signal triumphs of modern numismatic scholarship" and concludes that "In fact, *Medallic Portraits of Admiral Vernon* does such a superb job of defining the previously indefinable, the only numismatic book to which it can be appropriately compared is Sylvester Sage Crosby's *Early Coins of America*."

Orders for the book are now being accepted and delivery of the book is expected in early June. Inquiries or orders and payments may be sent to:

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## C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

*Thank You* to those who have checked their old auction catalogues and donated them to the library. There is still room for more. Take a look at what you have laying around and check it against the list shown on the club website. Any catalogues that are not already in the library will be greatly appreciated. Drop me an email and we'll add them to the library for all members to borrow. Remember, all catalogues that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section added to the library archive. Catalogues with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

The list of auction catalogues in the library is now about 500. One section on the website list contains the catalogues held intact. The other section contains the catalogues with only the Colonial content retained. Please look through both sections and see what you have to donate. I can also email you the list if you contact me. Please contact me if you would like to meet at a show to avoid having to mail them. Thanks

Below are new items donated to the club since the last *C4 Newsletter*. They are now available for loan by all C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org). Thanks to all who have donated items.

### Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogues:

Nipper, Will, *In Yankee Doodle's Pocket – The Myth, Magic and Politics of Money in Early America*, Bowmanstone Press, Conway, AZ, 2008 – Donated by Will Nipper.

McLaughlin, Michael S., *Fugio Cent Dies Study – 2008 Update*, Die State Study Manuscript with Photographs and descriptions (61 pages text plus a CD) – Donated by Michael McLaughlin.

August, Richard & Ed Sarrafian, *Thomas Machin, James Atlee and Abel Buell*, Copy of a talk presented at the C4 Convention 7 November 1997 (13 Pages) – Donated by Marc Mayhugh.

Stacks, *The Vermeule, Ward & Mexico Maxico Collections*, 11 January 2010, New York NY – Donated by Stacks.

Stacks, *The Americana Sale*, 26-27 January 2010, New York. NY – Donated by Stacks.

Stacks, *Selections from the Estate of Louis E. Eliasberg Jr. and the Collection of Chester L. Krause*, 2-3 March 2010, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks.

Coin Galleries, *Selections from the Estate of Louis E. Eliasberg Jr.*, 28 April 2010, New York, NY – Donated by Stacks.

*Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogues, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later.*



**I Want Your Suggestions: (Library related only please)**

Over the past year or two, we have conducted two C4 Library book auctions and placed lots at the annual convention. At these sales were duplicate books or books which did not have colonial content that were donated to the club. This has helped us raise over \$2700.00. These proceeds are available to purchase new books or other material for the C4 Library and loan by members. We have purchased a few items in the time since the auctions. Now is the time for input from the membership.

Please take a minute to look over the complete library listing on the club website. [www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org). Think about a book that you would like to read that is not currently in the library. Also, maybe there is a book that you have read and feel that it would be a great addition for a new colonial collector. Email me with your suggestions and opinions (Library related only please). I'll try to get them purchased and added to our library. Thanks in advance. My contact information is; Leo\_J\_Shane@hotmail.com or write to me at [REDACTED]

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\*\*\*\*\*

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your regional VP or the President of the Club, Ray Williams. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Zachary Beier - NJ	Thomas Powell - VA
Mark Berner - Quebec	Gregory Scotten - FL
George Bilodeau, Jr. - CT	Jonathan Leo Shane - MD
Mike Calloway - AL	Chester Sullivan - KS
Jim Carr - NH	Charles Suss - VT
Kenneth Casebeer - FL	Kevin Vinton - CT
Frank DeMaria - NY	Matt Yohe - PA
Aaron Packard - VA	

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$150	\$250	\$325	\$400	6" x 9"
1/2 page	\$115	\$190	\$250	\$300	6" x 4.5"

**NOTE: THESE RATES WILL INCREASE BEGINNING WITH VOLUME 18.**

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



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Gary Groll CTCC~EAC~C4~ANA

P.O. Box 255 White Hall, Va. 22987;

~ gary@grollcoins.com ~ [www.grollcoins.com](http://www.grollcoins.com)



Thanks to an ANS grant I am working on a study of circulating coins and currencies of the French and Indian Wars period (1689-1763). I would be very grateful for information on any American and Canadian metal detector finds dating to this period as well as any coins in collections that have find provenances attached to them. Contact: Oliver D. Hoover, [oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca](mailto:oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca)







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I have for sale a small number of carefully selected colonial type coins, a fairly large number of Sheldon and Newcomb variety large cents, and an interesting array of numismatic literature. These coins, reference books, and auction catalogues came mostly from our C4/EAC dealer friends, national auctions, and a few cherry-picks. Check it out at [www.johndirnbauercoins.com](http://www.johndirnbauercoins.com).

I encourage you to call me with a trial order to see if you like the high quality, accurate descriptions, and fair prices. Coins sent on approval to C4 and EAC members. I am a long-standing member of ANA, ANS, C4, EAC-571, NBS, and NENA.

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Email: [john@johndirnbauercoins.com](mailto:john@johndirnbauercoins.com).



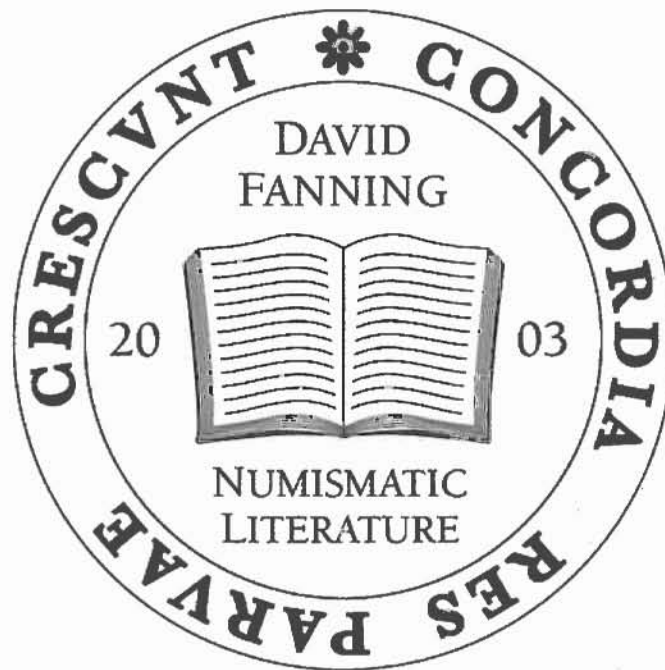
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2010 June Memphis Signature Currency Auction  
Memphis, TN • June 17-20, 2010  
Consignment Deadline - April 30, 2010

2010 September Signature ANA Currency Auction  
Boston, MA • August 8-15, 2010  
Consignment Deadline - June 18, 2010

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## CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

The following are corrections to, and modifications of, the article by John Lupia III entitled "The Two St. Patrick Coinages: The Smaller c. 1646-1660 and the Larger c. 1688" as it appeared in the *C4 Newsletter*, Volume 17, Number 4, Winter 2009. Editor

Figure 1, Page 9. Change the title from "Snelling, Plate 7" to "Simon, Plate 7."

Page 10, first paragraph, first sentence. Add "and Ireland" to the end of the sentence.

Page 11, last full paragraph. Add ", perhaps Thomas Rawlins." To the last sentence.

Page 12, first two lines. Change the square bracket so that it reads "and Royalists [Touchet, Butler, et alia], and Queen Henrietta Maria and Charles II, Prince of Wales, while they were at Paris."

Page 12, second full paragraph. Change (See Figure 3) to (See Figure 4).

Page 13, Figure 3. Replace the caption with "Marshall's Frontispiece for *Eikon Basilike*".

Page 13, Figure 4. Replace the caption with "Marshall's Frontispiece for Malvezzi's *David Persecuted*".

Page 13, Figure 5. Replace caption with "Phinn's Frontispiece for *Eikon Basilike*".

Page 14. Fourth paragraph, line -2: insert "and silver" immediately after the word "copper".

Page 16. Second paragraph. This paragraph should be replaced with:

This passage later revised in 1734 to read : "the small St. Patrick's coin which passeth now for a farthing" clearly states both St. Patrick's are halfpence since, "the great St. Patrick's halfpenny is yet larger than either" comparing Wood's halfpenny to both St. Patrick's though the smaller coin passes for a farthing. This assertion is supported by the citations we have

seen by the Act of Tynwald of 1679, Dingley in 1681, and Holme in 1688. Newman also noted both St. Patrick's were cited as halfpence but assumed Swift created confusion about the two sizes of St. Patrick's halfpence due to his "customary style in a tirade is full of redundancy and he was obviously referring only to the great St. Patrick piece as the halfpenny rather than indicating that coins of both sizes were halfpennies." <sup>29</sup>

Page 17, last paragraph. Change the first sentence to read:

When considering the date of 1688 for the large St. Patrick halfpence one wonders if it represents the celebration by the Catholic King James II of the Cathedral of Dublin restored to the Catholic Church that year.

Footnote 16. Change the final sentence to read:

The depiction of David as Charles the first is pointed out by Radzinowicz, Mary Ann. "Forced Allusions: Avatars of King David in the Seventeenth Century." in Diana Treviño Benet and Michael Lieb, eds., *Literary Milton. Text, Pretext, Context.* (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Duquesne University Press, 1994) : 227, n. 6.

Footnote 28. Add the following to the last sentence: "where he discusses the revision of 1735 [1734]."



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